PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA

MINUTES

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Presbyterian Church in the U.S.

MINUTES

OF THE

FORTIETH SESSION

OF THE

Synod of North-Carolina,

HELD IN THE

CHURCH OF WILMINGTON,

NOVEMBER, 1853.

RALEIGH:
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FORTIETH SESSION

OF THE

SYNOD OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

THE Synod of North-Carolina met, agreeably to appointment, in the Presbyterian Church of Wilmington, on Wednesday, the 9th day of November, 1853, at 7 o'clock, P. M.;—and in the absence of the two preceding Moderators, was opened with a sermon by the Rev. JAMES P. McPHERSON, from Rom. xi.: 13:—"*For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the Apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office.*"

After the sermon, the Rev. ADAM GILCHRIST, the last Moderator who was present, took the Chair, and constituted the Sessions with prayer.

PRESENT:

Of the Presbytery of Orange:—The Rev. Messrs. Eli W. Caruthers, George W. Ferrill, Drury Lacy, Robert Burwell, Thomas R. Owen, A. G. Hughes, Archibald Currie, Cyrus K. Caldwell, James Stratton, F. N. Whaley and Thomas U. Faucette—*Ministers*: with Hons. Abraham W. Venable, Frederick Nash and Wm. H. Cummings, Esq.,—*Ruling Elders.*

Of the Presbytery of Concord:—The Rev. Messrs. Daniel A. Penick, Cyrus Johnston, D.D., A. L. Watts, H. B. Cunningham, Walter W. Pharr, George M. Gibbs, William C. Sutton, P. Tinsley Penick and Benjamin M. Beall—*Ministers*: with Messrs. Sandy McKinley, F. L. Monteith and Daniel Coleman—*Ruling Elders.*

Of the Presbytery of Fayetteville:—The Rev. Messrs. Robert Tate, Adam Gilchrist, Hector McLean, Archibald Smith, Neill McKay, Colin Shaw, Duncan Black, Neill McDonald, Hector McAlister, George McNeill, James M. Sprunt, James P. McPherson and M. B. Grier—*Ministers*: with Messrs. George McNeill, Gilbert N. McLean, Thomas Smith, M.D., H. W. Beatty, Patrick Cromarty, James D. Hall, Daniel McNeill, James Owen, Kenneth Black, Alexander Blue, Jeremiah Hands, Angus Baker and Malcom McLeod—*Ruling Elder.*

ABSENT.

Of the Presbytery of Orange:—The Rev. Messrs. William Paisley, John H. Pickard, Elisha Mitchell, D.D., Jesse Rankin, Thomas Lynch, Alexander Wilson, D.D., James Phillips, D.D., William N. Mebane, Edward Hines, Jacob Doll, Edmund C. Bittenger, James N. Lewis, S. A. Stanfield, John S. Grasty, Nelson Z. Graves and James H. McNeill.

Of the Presbytery of Concord:—The Rev. Messrs. Walter S. Pharr, Robert Hall Morrison, D.D., Stephen Frontis, Samuel Williamson, D.D., Henry N. Pharr, Daniel Lindley, Thomas P. Johnston, James D. Hall, James E. Morrison, William N. Morrison, E. F. Rockwell, Samuel B. O. Wilson, John E. McPherson, Archibald Baker, R. H. Lafferty, Thomas E. Davis, Samuel C. Pharr, D.D., P. H. Dalton, R. N. Davis, Thomas N. Paxton, Gilbert Morgan, William C. Sheetz and Monroe T. Allen.

Of the Presbytery of Fayetteville:—The Rev. Messrs. Simeon Colton, D.D., Samuel Paisley, William N. Peacock, Evander McNair, Hector McNeill, John R. McIntosh, Frederick K. Nash, James O. Stedman, Hugh A. Munroe, Daniel Johnson, William H. Hogshead and James Jones Smyth.

The Synod then proceeded to the election of Officers, when the Rev. Hector McLean was chosen Moderator, and the Rev. Messrs. Cyrus K. Caldwell and George McNeill were chosen Temporary Clerks.

And then the Synod adjourned, to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

Thursday Morning, 10 o'Clock.

The Synod met according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer. The Rev. Messrs. Robert Burwell, George W. Ferrill, A. G. Hughes, Archibald Currie and F. N. Whaley, of the Presbytery of Orange ; and the Rev. Messrs. Neill McDonald and Neill McKay, of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, appeared in Synod, and gave satisfactory reasons for their late attendance.

The Rev. Messrs. Peyton Morrison, F. S. Sampson, D.D., and Robert L. Dabney, D.D., of the Synod of Virginia, being present as Delegates from that Synod to this, were invited to sit as Corresponding Members.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That in consideration of the fact that the members of the Synod are supplied with the printed Minutes of the last Stated Session, the reading of those Minutes be dispensed with.

The absentees from the last session of Synod were called on, when the Rev. Messrs. Tate, Currie, Cunningham, Sutton, Beall, Gilchrist, McLean, McDonald and McAlister rendered their excuses for absence, which were received as satisfactory.

The Statistical Reports of the several Presbyteries composing this Synod were read, accepted and adopted, and ordered to be recorded, and are as follow, viz.:—

I.—*The Presbytery of Orange report to the Synod of North-Carolina:*

That they consist of 27 Ministers, and have under their care 47 Churches, 5 Licentiates and 5 Candidates; that on the 30th day of June, 1853, they dismissed Rev. Samuel W. Watkins to join the Presbytery of West Hanover; that on the same day they dismissed Mr. William P. Wharton, a Licentiate, to place himself under the care of Lexington Presbytery; that on the 2d day of July, 1853, they licensed Mr. Henry Hardie and Mr. John Watt Montgomery as probationers to preach the gospel; that on the 27th day of October, 1853, they dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. James N. Lewis and the church of Danville; and that they lost by death Rev. John A. Gretter and Rev. John Witherspoon, D.D.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. DOLL, *Stated Clerk.*

October, 29th, 1853.

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II.—*The Presbytery of Concord report to the Synod of North-Carolina:*

That they consist of 33 Ministers, and have under their care 62 Congregations, 4 Licentiates and 5 Candidates; that on the 22d day of April, 1853, they received as a member, from the Presbytery of Orange, Rev. M. T. Allen; that on the same day they received under their care, as a Licentiate, Mr. Robert Agnew, from the Presbytery of Charleston; that on the 27th day of May, 1853, they organized the church of Taylorsville; that on the 3d day of August, 1853, they dissolved the pastoral relation existing between Rev. J. E. Morrison and the church of Concord town, and declared said church vacant; that on the same day they licensed Mr. S. C. Alexander to preach the gospel as a probationer for the holy ministry; and that on the 3d day of September, 1853, they ordained as an evangelist Mr. W. S. Moore.

By order of the Presbytery,

R. H. LAFFERTY, *Stated Clerk.*

Asheville, N. C., *Sept.* 3, 1853.

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II.—*The Presbytery of Fayetteville report to the Synod of North-Carolina:*

That at this time they consist of 24 Ministers, and have under their care 53 Churches, 4 Licentiates and 4 Candidates; that on the 17th day of November, 1852, they lost by death the Rev. John McIntyre; that on the 7th day of April, 1853, they received the Rev. James P. McPherson from the Presbytery of Harmony; and on the 8th, they dismissed the Rev. Evander McNair to join the Presbytery of Brazos, and the Rev. George McNeill to join the Presbytery of Orange; that on the 4th day of November, Rev. George McNeill returned his letter of dismission, which had not been pre-

sented to the Presbytery of Orange, and accordingly his name was again enrolled; that on the same day they received Mr. Duncan Daniel McByrde under their care as a Candidate for the Gospel Ministry, on probation; that on the 5th, they dismissed Mr. Henry Walsh, one of our Licentiates, to place himself under the care of the Presbytery of Chickasaw, and licensed Messrs. Martin McQueen and Duncan D. McBryde to preach the Gospel of Christ; that on the 10th of November, 1853, they received the Rev. Matthew B. Grier from the Presbytery of Baltimore, and dissolved the church of "Six Runs."

By order of the Presbytery,

ARCHIBALD SMITH, *Stated Clerk.*

Wilmington, 12th *Nov.*, 1853.

The Narratives of the several Presbyteries on the state of religion were read, accepted, and referred to the Rev. Messrs. H. B. Cunningham and Neill McDonald, as a Committee to report thereon.

Letters were received and read from the Rev. Messrs. Jacob Doll, T. N. Paxton, R. H. Lafferty, Archibald Baker, P. H. Dalton, Hector McNeill, E. F. Rockwell, Alexander Wilson, D.D., John R. McIntosh and Hugh A. Munroe.

A communication from the Synod of Virginia, relating to the interests of Union Theological Seminary, was read, and referred to the Committee on the Annual Report of the Directors of said Seminary, which Committee was appointed by the Moderator, and consists of the Rev. Messrs. Daniel A. Penick, Drury Lacy and Calvin Shaw—*Ministers*; with Messrs. Abraham W. Venable, Daniel Coleman and Thomas Smith—*Ruling Elders.*

The Rev. James Stratton, of the Presbytery of Orange, appeared in Synod, and gave satisfactory reasons for his late attendance.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next Stated Session of Synod be held in the town of Concord, in the county of Cabarrus, on Wednesday, the 25th day of October, 1854, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was read, accepted, and referred to the Committee already named, and is as follows, viz.:—

The Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary, under the care of the Synods of North-Carolina and Virginia, respectfully

REPORT,

That during the seminary year, ending June 13th, 1853, eleven Students

have been connected with the Seminary. Of these, the following eight entered at the commencement of the session, viz.:—

D. C. Harrison, Graduate of Princeton College,
A. B. Tucker, M.D., Candidate of Winchester Presbytery,
Alexander Martin, Frst Church, Richmond, Va.,
R. B. McK. McMaster, Graduate of Washington College,
Wm. A. Campbell, " "
Chas. S. M. See, " "
B. N. Sawtelle, Graduate of Hanover College, Ind.,
E. P. Porter, " "

Owing to peculiar circumstances, there has been no Senior Class the past year, and therefore none of the Students have finished their course of study.

The health of the Students has been good, and their deportment, according to the report of the Faculty, has been consistent with their profession and their prospective connection with the Church. The Students were examined at the close of the session, in presence of a Committee of the Board, which examination was reported to be satisfactory.

The Board of Directors

consists of the following members, viz.:—

Of the Synod of North-Carolina—D. Lacy, D.D., A. Baker, D. A. Penick, A. Currie, R. Burwell, Wm. Mebane, J. Doll and C. Johnston, D.D.—*Ministers*; with J. J. Speed, R. V. Watkins, N. M. Lewis and N. M. Roan—*Elders.*

Of the Synod of Virginia—Wm. H. Foote, D.D., A. Hart, T. Prior, S. D. Stuart, W. S. White, D.D., N. Chevalier, Wm. Brown and G. W. McPhail—*Ministers;* with C. C. Read, A. C. McIlwaine, C. S. Carrington and Wm. A. Bell—*Elders.*

Officers of the Board:

Rev. DRURY LACY, D.D., President,
" Wm. Henry Foote, D.D., 1st Vice-President,
" A. Baker, 2d Vice-President,
C. C. Read, Secretary,
F. N. Watkins, Treasurer.

Professors of Seminary:

Samuel B. Wilson, D.D., Professor of Theology,
F. S. Sampson, D.D., Professor of Oriental Literature,
R. L. Dabney, D.D., Professor of Church History and Polity.

The Funds of the Seminary.

The permanent funds of the Seminary amount to $63,350, which are vested in State and Bank Stocks. There has been no change in the funds of the Seminary since last report. $5,000 were last year insured on the buildings, and $5,000 more have been ordered to be insured at the present meeting.

The proceeds of these funds, which the Directors can appropriate, may be set down at about $4,000. The expenses for the last year were—

For two Professors,	$2,200 00
" Repairs and contingent expenses,	645 27

Dr. R. J. Breckenridge having declined the Professorship tendered to him, the College of Electors, being duly assembled, on the 23d day of March last, did unanimously elect the Rev. Robert L. Dabney to fill the chair of Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Polity. This appointment he has accepted, any will take charge of that department at the beginning of next session.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee appointed to revise the Constitution and Plan of the Seminary, after full discussion it was *Resolved* to recommend to the Synods the following alterations of the Plan, viz.:—

ART. I., Sec. 1.—Amend the first sentence so as to read—"The Board of Directors shall meet statedly once in each year, on the Second Monday in May:"

ART. VI.—Substitute the following:—"The Sessions of the Seminary shall open on the Second Wednesday in September, and close on the Second Monday in May."

The Committee on the Fourth Professorship made a report, which was accepted and adopted, and the following Committees were appointed to bring this important measure before the Synods, viz.:—

Rev. Wm. S. White, D.D.,
" Wm. Brown,
" M. D. Hoge,
} *Of the Synod of Virginia.*

Rev. D. A. Penick,
" D. Lacy, D.D.,
" F. K. Nash,
} *Of the Synod of North-Carolina.*

This Report was ordered to be publish in the "Watchman & Observer" and the "Presbyterian," for the information of Ministers and Churches.

The Library of the Seminary

has during the past year received the following donations:—

From the Presbyterian Board of Publication,	Vols.	24
" the Society of Alumni of U. T. S.,	"	15
" Rev. Dr. Foote,	"	6
" Prof. Martin Payne, M.D.,	"	5
" Hon. James M. Mason,	"	1
" B. H. Rogers,	"	1
" Unknown,	"	1
Making an addition of	Vols.	53

All of which is respectfully submitted,

D. LACY, *President.*

J. DOLL, *Temporary Clerk.*

(Copy test,)

CLEM'T. C. READ, *Sec. to Board.*

June 14, 1853.

The Rev. Messrs. M. B. Grier, of the Synod of Philadelphia, John C. Lowrie, D.D., of the Synod of New-York, and B. Gildersleeve, of the Synod of Virginia, being present, were invited to take their seats in Synod as Corresponding Members.

The Rev. Cyrus Johnston, D.D., resigned his office as Director of the U. T. Seminary; whereupon, the Rev. P. Tinsley Penick was elected to fill the vacancy. The Rev. Messrs. F. N. Whaley and Walter W. Pharr, were severally elected Directors of the Seminary, to fill the places of the Rev. Messrs. Archibald Currie and Daniel A. Penick, whose terms of service expires at the present session of Synod, and who decline a re-election. Mr. Richard V. Watkins was re-elected a Director, to serve the next four years. The Rev. Jacob Doll tendered his resignation as a Director, which was not accepted.

The Rev. S. A. Stanfield was elected Synodical Agent for Domestic Missions, in the place of Rev. J. Doll, resigned.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the following arrangements be adopted for the purpose of attending to the several Departments of Benevolence, and in the order subjoined, viz.:—

1*st*. That the Report of the Synodical Agent on Foreign Missions, be presented at 7 o'clock this evening, and made the order of the day for that hour.

2*d*. That the Report on Education be made the order of the day for Saturday at 10½ o'clock, A. M.

3*d*. That in the absence of the Rev. Mr. Doll, Synod's agent for Domestic Missions, the Rev. Messrs. A. G. Hughes, Colin Shaw and Walter W. Pharr be appointed a Committee to bring before Synod that important subject, in whatever form they may deem best, at 3 o'clock, Saturday afternoon.

4*th*. That Saturday evening, 7 o'clock, be made the order of the day for hearing the Report on the Board of Publication and Colportage.

Jeremiah Hands, a Ruling Elder of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, appeared in Synod and took his seat as a member.

The Report of the Treasurer of the Synod was read and accepted, and referred to the Standing Committee, and is as follows, to wit.:—

CHARLES PHILLIPS, *Treasurer*,
in account with the Synod of North-Carolina.

		Dr.	Cr.
Oct. 18, 1852.	Cash in hand,(see Minutes of 1852, p. 10)	$ 1 61	
Dec. 29, "	Received of Mr. Jas. Martine, Treasurer of Fayetteville Presbytery, ...	21 00	
" 21, "	Received of Rev. Jas. Morrison, Treasurer of Concord Presbytery, ...	38 00	
Jan. 3, 1853.	Received of Rev. Jno. A. Gretter, Treasurer of Orange Presbytery, ...	38 50	
Dec. 14, 1852.	Paid Rev. Dr. D. Lacy, S. C., for contingencies in his office, ...		$ 9 20
" 23, "	Paid Rev. Dr. Lacy, for his salary as Stated Clerk to Oct. 1852, ...		25 00
Jan. 3, 1853.	" " " "		19 50
Dec. 23, 1852.	Paid W. W. Holden, for printing the Minutes of Synod for 1851, ...		20 00
Jan. 3, 1853.	" " " "		25 00
May 26, "	Balance transferred to a new account, ..		0 41
		$99 11	$99 11

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THE PRESBYTERIES *of the Synod of North-Carolina*
in account with Charles Phillips, *Treasurer.*

		Dr.	Cr.
Nov., 1853.	Concord Presbytery, for estimated expenses of the Synod, up to November, 1853, ..	$32 37	
"	Fayetteville Presbytery, for the same, ...	25 68	
"	Orange Presbytery, for the same, ...	31 21	
		$89 26	

In the absence of the Treasurer, George McNeill, Esq., was appointed Treasurer *pro tempore*.

The Moderator then announced the following Standing Committees appointed by him, viz.:—

1. *On Bills and Overtures.*—The Rev. Messrs. Adam Gilchrist, Eli W. Caruthers and A. L. Watts—*Ministers*; with Messrs. Sandy McKinley and Daniel McNeill—*Ruling Elders.*

2. *On the Judicial Committee.*—The Rev. Messrs. Cyrus Johnston, D.D., Archibald Smith and Robert Burwell—*Ministers*; with Messrs. Kenneth Black, Abraham W. Venable and Daniel Coleman—*Ruling Elders.*

3. *On the Minutes of the Presbytery of Orange.*—The Rev. P. Tinsley Penick—*Minister*; and Mr. Gilbert N. McLean—*Ruling Elder.*

4. *On the Minutes of the Presbytery of Concord.*—The Rev. Messrs. Duncan Black and T. U. Faucette—*Ministers.*

5. *On the Minutes of the Presbytery of Fayetteville.*—The Rev. Messrs. William C. Sutton and George M. Gibbs—*Ministers.*

6. *On the Minutes of the General Assembly.*—The Rev. Messrs. Robert Burwell, A. G. Hughes and Neill McKay—*Ministers*; with Mr. H. W. Beatty—*Ruling Elder.*

7. *On the Devotional Exercises of Synod.*—The Rev. Messrs. Hector McAlister and George W. McNeill—*Ministers*; with Gen. James Owen—*Ruling Elder.*

8. *On the Narrative of the state of Religion.*—The Rev. Messrs. H. B. Cunningham and Neill McDonald—*Ministers.*

9. *On the Treasurer's Account.*—Messrs. Daniel Coleman and Sandy McKinley—*Ruling Elders*; with Rev. W. C. Sutton, *Minister.*

10. *On the Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary.*—The Rev. Messrs. Daniel A. Penick, Drury Lacy and Colin Shaw—*Ministers*; with Messrs. Abraham W. Venable, Daniel Coleman and Thomas Smith—*Ruling Elders.*

The Synod then took a recess till 3 o'clock.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, 3 o'clock.

After recess, the Synod resumed business.

The Committees appointed by the Moderator to review the Minutes of the Presbyteries of Orange, Concord and Fayetteville respectively, made their separate reports, in which they severally recommended that these Minutes be approved, with the following exception: that is to say, those of Orange Presbytery, to page 253, with the exception, that it does not appear on the Minutes of that Ppesbytery, that two of its sessions were closed with prayer;—of Concord, to page 402;—and of Fayetteville, to page 336.

It was, on motion,

Resolved, That Synod during its present sessions, have a recess to attend upon divine worship, whenever it shall be held in the church.

The Rev. E. B. Sherwood, of the Synod of Geneva, being present, was invited to sit as a Corresponding Member.

The Rev. M. B. Grier, the pastor of the church, was, on motion, appointed Chairman of the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Committee of Devotional Exercises reported as follows :—

That they recommend the following order of services, viz.: That Synod spend a season in religious exercises to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock, in the following order, viz. :—

1. The Moderator open the meeting with prayer,
2. Reading the Scriptures and Psalmody, by Rev. A. G. Hughes,
3. Address, by Rev. Dr. Sampson,
4. Prayer and Psalmody, by Rev. Dr. Lacy,
5. Benediction, by the Moderator,
6. Preaching in the evening at 7 o'clock, by Rev. Dr. Dabney.

(Signed,)
M. B. GRIER, *Chairman.*

And then the Synod took a recess till 7 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY EVENING, 7 o'clock, P. M.

After the recess, the Synod met, and attended to the order of the day, viz.: to hear the Report on Foreign Missions. After which, an address was delivered on the subject by the Rev. John C. Lowrie, D.D., Assistant Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions.

A Committee was then appointed, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Drury Lacy, Daniel A. Penick and Adam Gilchrist, to draft resolutions expressive of the views of Synod on the great cause of Foreign Missions.

The Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, 10 o'clock.

The Synod met according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of yesterday were read and corrected. The Rev. James M. Sprunt and Mr. Maclom McLeod appeared in Synod, and gave their reasons for late attendance.

The Devotional Exercises of Synod were now observed, in the order recommended by the Committee on yesterday.

The Rev. Thomas R. Owen and Mr. Angus Baker appeared in Synod, and gave satisfactory reasons for their tardiness.

The Committee appointed to draft resolutions on the subject of Foreigh Missions, presented the following report, viz.:—

The Synod, having listened with high gratification, last night, to the striking statements and earnest appeals of the Rev. J. C. Lowrie, D.D., Assistant Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, are more than ever impressed with the claims which the Board has upon the prayers, sympathies and contributions of the Churches within our bounds; and with a view of stimulating ourselves and those under our charge to greater efforts in this noble cause, agree to the following resolutions, viz.:—

Resolved, 1. That the Ministers of this Synod will prove recreant to the command of our Lord and Master—to disciple all nations, and preach the gospel to every creature—should they neglect to lay before their people, with more punctuality and urgency, the great subject of Foreign Missions in all its bearings.

2. That the Board of Foreign Missions deserve our fullest confidence; that we believe that they, and especially the Executive Committee, have managed the trust committed to them with every proper regard to economy and expenditure; that they have exercised forecast in laying important plans for future operations with judgment, and that their activity and self-denial commend them to the prayers and co-operation of all our Churches.

3. That the Ministers of this Synod will take measures for placing the "Home and Foreigh Record" or "Foreign Missionary" in every family throughout our bounds, and will, from their pulpits, annually furnish their people with an abstract of the proceedings of the Board.

4. That the fact stated—of the proportion borne by our contributions to the number both of our members and our churches—is a matter of deep humiliation before God; and this Synod enjoin upon the Presbyteries to insist, that every Minister present the cause of Foreign Missions to his people at least once a year, and with the aid of his church session, secure a contribution from every church member.

5. That the state of the world, as presented by Dr. Lowrie, beckoning us to effort, and inviting to occupation, demands from this Synod hearty thanksgiving, and, while we feel rebuked for past apathy, should be deemed an encouragement to our Board to attempt new enterprises; and that we, as a Synod, bind ourselves to do all that we can to sustain any new Missions which the Board may form—whether in China, India, Africa, California, among Jews or Roman Catholics, or wherever or among any to whom the providence of God may invite, as proper objects of Missionary labor.

(Signed,)

DRURY LACY,
DANIEL A. PENICK,
ADAM GILCHRIST,
} *Committee.*

The Report of the Synodical Agent for Foreign Missions was accepted, and ordered to be filed among the papers of Synod.

The Stated Clerk presented the Statistical Report of Synod, prepared for the next General Assembly, which he read, and is as follows, viz.:—

REPORT

Of the Synod of North-Carolina to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The Synod of North-Carolina Report to the General Assembly, That they consist in whole of eighty-four Ministers, having under their care one hundred and sixty-two Congregations, thirteen Licentiates and fourteen Candidates, viz.:—

Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Licentiates.	Candidates.
1. Orange,	27	47	5	5
2. Concord,	33	62	4	5
3. Fayetteville,	24	53	4	4
Totals,	84	162	13	14

The Synod further report, that within the past year its Presbyteries have ordained one Minister, as an Evangelist, and have installed one Minister, as the Pastor of a Church; that they have licensed five Probationers to preach the gospel; that they have received two ordained Ministers and one Licentiate from Presbyteries not belonging to this Synod, and have transferred one Minister from one of our Presbyteries to another; that one new Church has been organized and received under the care of one of our Presbyteries, and that one has been dissolved; that they have dissolved the pastoral relation subsisting between two of our Churches and their respective pastors; that they have dismissed two Members and one Licentiate, with a view of joining Presbyteries not belonging to this Synod; that they have lost three Ministers by death; and that the next meeting of Synod will be held in the town of Concord, on Wednesday, the 25th day of October, 1854, at 7 o'clock, P. M. (Signed,)

DRURY LACY, *Stated Clerk.*

On motion, it was

Resolved, That this Report be accepted and adopted, and that an authentic copy of it be forwarded to the next General Assembly.

And then the Synod took a recess till 3 o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, 3 o'clock.

The Synod met according to appointment. In consideration of the fact, that a large number of its members were engaged on

important Committees, in maturing business for its action, Synod took another recess until the close of the religious services this evening.

FRIDAY EVENING, 8½ o'clock.

The Synod again met, and resumed its business. The following Report and Resolutions, relating to the Union Theological Seminary, were presented by the Committee appointed on that subject :—

The Committee to which was referred the Annual Report of the Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary, recommending several changes to be made in the plan of the Seminary, and the endowment of a fourth Professorship in that institution; together with a communication from the Synod of Virginia, setting forth the action of that Synod upon the recommendations of the said Board—beg leave to submit to the Synod the following as their

REPORT:

The Committee regard the several matters referred to them—connected as they are with the training and multiplying of Candidates for the gospel ministry—as involving interests of most grave and vital importance, and as demanding the solemn and united action of this Synod, with a view to a cordial and vigorous cooperation with our sister Synod of Virginia.

Your Committee are particularly gratified to have had some conference with several brethren, delegates from the Synod of Virginia, on the subject of the Seminary, who will, it is hoped, at the proper time, express their views freely and fully to the Synod, in regard to the prospects and claims of our Seminary, as well as in regard to the wishes and plans of both the Synod of Virginia and the Board of Directors of the Seminary.

After such consultation and deliberation as the limited time allowed us would permit, your Committee unanimously recommend the following resolutions to be adopted by the Synol, viz. :—

Resolved, 1. That the Annual Report of the Directors of Union Theological Seminary be approved.

Resolved, 2. That in compliance with the recommendation of said Board of Directors, and in concurrence with the Synod of Virginia, the following alterations be made in the plan of the Seminary, viz. :—

1.—That Art. I., Sec. 1, be so amended as to read—"The Board of Directors shall meet statedly, once in each year, on the Second Monday in May."

2.—That Art. VI. be so amended as to read—"The sessions of the Seminary shall open on the Second Wednesday in September, and close on the Second Monday in May."

Resolved, further, That this Synod concur with the Synod of Virginia in directing the Secretary of the Board to call a meeting of the Board of Directors of said Seminary, to be held at the Seminary, on the Second Monday of May next.

Resolved, 3. That in the judgment of this Synod, the Churches of both States—Virginia and North-Carolina—must look mainly to Union Seminary for Pastors to supply our multiplying vacancies, and Missionaries to occupy our widely extended missionary fields; that in order to attract Candidates to our Seminary, and thoroughly to train them when there, it is higly expedient, as soon as practicable, to endow a fourth Professorship in the Seminary, and that, therefore, in concurrence with the Synod of Virginia, the Board of Directors of Union Seminary be instructed to take such measures as they may think most wise and effective, as soon as practicable to secure the endowment of a fourth Professorship in said Seminary.

Resolved, 4. That this Synod does hereby earnestly recommend to all the Presbyteries, Ministers, Elders and Churches under our care, heartily to cooperate with the Board of Directors in consummating the said endowment, by cordially receiving and aiding any Agent whom the Board may send among them, or by liberally responding to the call of the Board in whatever way that call may be made in behalf of this object.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DAN'L. A. PENICK, *Chairman.*

The foregoing Report and Resolutions, after addresses made by the Rev. Messrs. Peyton Harrison, and Drs. Sampson and Dabney, delegates from the Synod of Virginia, and after considerable discussion, and various propositions to amend, on the part of several members of Synod, were first adopted *seriatim* and finally as a whole. On the third Resolution the *ayes* and *noes* were called for, when the following result was announced:

Ayes:—The Rev. Messrs. Drury Lacy, Robert Burwell, Thomas R. Owen, A. G. Hughes, Archibald Currie, Cyrus K. Caldwell, James Stratton, F. N. Whally, Thomas U. Faucette, Daniel A. Penick, Cyrus Johnston, D.D., A. S. Watts, Walter W. Pharr, George M. Gibbs, P. Tinsley Penick, Archibald Smith, Neill McKay, Colin Shaw, Duncan Black, Neill McDonald, James M. Sprunt, and M. B. Grier—*Ministers*: with Messrs. Abraham W. Venable, Frederick Nash, William H. Cumming, Sandy McKinley, F. L. Monteith, Gilbert N. McLean, Thomas Smith, H. W. Beatty, Daniel Mc Neill, James Owen, Kenneth Black, Alexander Blue, Jeremiah Hands, Malcom McLeod, and Angus Baker—*Ruling Elders.*—37.

Noes.—The Rev. Messrs. H. B. Cunningham, William C. Sutton, and Hector McAlister—*Ministers*; with George McNeill, Esq.,—*Ruling Elder.*—4.

Non Lignet:—The Rev. Messrs. George W. Ferrill, Benjamin L. Beall, Adam Gilchrist, and James P. McPherson—*Ministers.*—3.

Several members were absent and did not vote.

Daniel Coleman, Esq. obtained leave of absence after the morning session of to-morrow.

The Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock. Closed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9½ o'CLOCK.

The Synod met, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of yesterday were read and corrected.

The Rev. Benjamin M. Smith, of the Synod of Virginia, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The Committee, to whom the Treasurer's account was referred, made the following report, viz :—

That we have examined the statement of the receipts and disbursements, together with the vouchers placed in our hands, and find that there is now a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of ($7.50,) seven dollars and fifty cents.

Respectfuly submitted.

(Signed,)

WILLIAM C. SUTTON, *Chairman.*

On motion it was

Resolved, That a Committee be raised to take into consideration the propriety of changing the geographical boundary between the Presbyteries of Orange and Fayetteville, so as to include the village of Goldsboro' within the limits of the latter—and report to Synod at their earliest convenience.

Whereupon, the Moderator appointed the Rev. Messrs. Cyrus Johnston, D.D., Neill McKay and Drury Lacy, *Ministers*—with Messrs. James Owen, Abraham W. Venable, and Daniel Coleman, *Ruling Elders*, as said Committee.

The rule requiring Synod to take recess to attend divine worship was suspended, for the hour of 11 o'clock.

The Report of the Synodical Agent on Education was presented, read and accepted. The Report and the Resolutions appended, were, after an interesting discussion on the whole subject, adopted—the latter ordered to be printed in the Minutes, and the former to be filed away among the papers of Synod.

The Committee recommend to Synod the adoption of the following Resolutions :—

Resolved, 1. That in view of the paucity of candidates for the Gospel Ministry Synod would urge upon all our Ministers and Church, the observance of the last Thursday of February next, as recommended by the Assembly, as a day of prayer, in

behalf of our Institutious, and *especially*, that "the Lord of the harvest would send forth more laborers."

2. That while this Synod "have always been, and are now, in favor of the general education of the people; and will encourage all public or private efforts which have this end in view, and which recognize the use of the holy scriptures;" yet they deem it important, as far as practicable, to adhere to and extend the systems of Schools, Academies and Colleges, as recommended by the General Assembly.

3. That Synod "recommend the objects of the Board of Education, in its various departments, to the patronage of the Churches, in such form as each may deem best,"

(Signed,)

NEILL McKAY, *Agent.*

The Committee appointed to draft a Narrative on the State of Religion, made the following Report, viz :—

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION IN THE BOUNDS OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Synod of North Carolina, in presenting its Annual Narrative to the General Assembly, feel obliged to state that in doing so, drawing its materials from the Reports sent up by the Presbyteries, it must present a varied picture of light and shade.

In all our Presbyteries there are many congregations destitute of the regular ministrations of the word and ordinances; and large fields yet unoccupied, and much land to be possessed, while the laborers are comparatively few, and the prospect of an early increase far from being as encouraging as would be desirable. And what makes this state of things the more lamentable, is the fact that it is to be feared, that to some extent, the watchmen on Zion's walls do not feel it as deeply or pray over it as anxiously as they should; and the professed people of God love to have it so.

In addition to this, a worldly spirit prevails, to a great extent, among our people, a hasting to gain the riches and the honors of this world; naturally leading to that coveteousness which is idolatry, and which has such a deadening effect upon the soul, and so effectually prevents christians from exhibiting that entire consecration to Christ, and that devotedness to his cause which should ever characterize those purchased at such a price, and who are designed to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

While the liberality of our Churches, as exhibited by their contributions to the benevolent operations of our Church, has somewhat increased, yet it is very far from being what we have a right to expect, and what we believe the Churches would do, did they feel as they should feel the nature and extent of their obligations, and the claims upon them of a world lying in wickedness.

But while called upon to deplore those things, we have yet many things which call for thankfulness, and which should induce us to take courage and go forward.

The attendance upon the means of grace has generally been good—the people have seemed disposed to hear—our ministers have endeavored to present the truth in its purity, with simplicity and earnestness.

The youth of our Churches have been generally gathered into Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes, and there taught not only the distinctive features of our own Church, but those great and vital truths, which are able to make them wise unto salvation. Our colored population too, have shared in the labors of our Pastors.

All our Presbyteries report the existing evidence of the Spirit's presence, in a special manner, in some at least of their Churches, by which several hundreds have been added to our communions. And it is an encouraging fact, in connexion with this state of things, that while individuals of all ages, and from all classes of society, have been, by the grace of God, brought into the Church, yet a very large proportion of them have been taken from the ranks of our Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes, from among the children of the Covenant.

As some mercy drops have thus fallen upon our Zion's thirsty hill, we would fondly hope and earnestly pray, that these seasons of refreshing which have been enjoyed by some of our Churches, may be only the earnest of a richer coming blessing, in which all the Churches in our bounds shall share; and that if all our Ministers, Elders and private Christians will be earnest and persevering in wrestling at a throne of grace for the outpouring of the Spirit; we may expect that ere long God will verify his promise—"I will heel their backslidings, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew unto Israel; he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. His branches shall spread and his beauty shall be as the Olive-tree, and his smell as Lebanon. They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine; the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon."

And thus under this heavenly influence all our Churches will become like Mount Zion, where the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.

All which is respectfully submitted.

H. B. CUNNINGHAM,
N. McDONALD, } *Committee.*

The Committee to which was referred the consideration of the propriety of changing the dividing line between the Orange and Fayetteville Presbyteries, recommend that said boundary be changed so as to include the town of Goldsboro' within the boundaries of Fayetteville Presbytery.

(Signed,) CYRUS JOHNSTON, *Chairman.*

This report was accepted and adopted.

It was, on motion,

Resolved, That the sum of ($217,) two hundred and seventeen dollars—being the amount of legacy left to Synod by the late Mrs. Lorance, and now in the hands of Mr. George McNeill, be forwarded to the Rev. E. F. Rockwell, to be expended in the erection of a House of Worship in the town of Franklin, Macon Co. N. C.

The Treasurer *pro tempore*, reports to Synod, that he has recived for the contingent fund of Synod :

From the Presbytery of Concord, - - -	$29 00
From the Executor of John Boney, Esq. for Foreign Missions, - - - - -	30 00

And asks of Synod what disposition shall be made of the money?

GEORGE McNEILL, *Tem. Treasurer.*

Whereupon, it was ordered that the contingent fund of $29 be paid over to the Treasurer of Synod ; and the sum of $30 left by the late Mr. Boney for Foreign Missions, as it was contributed in the bounds of Fayetteville Presbytery, be placed in the hands of the Treasurer of that Presbytery.

The Committee appointed (in the absence of the Synodical Agent) to bring up the cause of Domestic Missions, before the Synod, made a report, which was accepted, and after the discussion of the cause presented, was ordered to be filed among the papers of the Synod.

And then the Synod took a recess until 7¼ o'clock.

SATURDAY EVENING, 7¼ o'clock.

After recess, the Synod again met, and was called to order. The Agent of the Synod on the Board of Publication and Colportage, presented his report, which was accepted. The Rev. B. M. Smith, Secretary of the Board of Publication then addressed the Synod at length on the whole subject committed to his supervision, after which the report was adopted, and is as follows, viz :

REPORT OF THE SYNODICAL COMMITTEE ON COLPORTAGE.

In making their report to Synod, your Committee would allude to the death of their Chairman, and record a tribute of respect to the memory of one who no longer lives and labors on earth. The Rev. J. A. Gretter has been taken to his reward. We believe that he now enjoys that full inheritance of which he had a sweet earnest in this world. What is our loss is his eternal gain. He was a zealous Minister, a warm-hearted Christian, an indefatigable laborer, a true and an active friend to the interests of that enterprise treated of in this report. His work is finished. He has fought the good fight of faith. He has got the crown. He has won the prize and entered into the joy of his Lord. Let us who remain be followers of them who through faith and patience have inherited the promises. Would that he had a successor upon whom his mantle might fall, and in whose breast was infused the spirit by which he was ruled.

Hence we would suggest to Synod the propriety of appointing another Chairman, whose age and zeal and experience would secure the prosperity of the great work of Colportage now under the care of your Committee.

Since the subject of Colportage was last brought before you in the form of a Report, at least seventeen persons have been engaged in the service of our Assembly's Board. Some of them were regular laborers; others gave up their commissions after the lapse of only a few months. Nearly six years is the aggregate amount of labor performed. Nearly 12,000 volumes sold and given away. Nearly 3,000 families prayed with and conversed with on the subject of religion, besides 2,000 other families to whom books were sold or given. One fact, besides a number of others that might be mentioned is, that over 200 Presbyterian families among the number visited have been furnished with the Confession of Faith who had none, and perhaps would have been destitute until this day, had it not been for the Colporteur.

Since the last meeting of Synod four persons received commissions and for a fifth one a commission and box of books has been sent for. All of them, with one exception, are laboring in the bounds of Concord Presbytery—a fact which proves the propriety and advantage of having a member of the commissioners in each Presbytery, and of having more than one, if Synod sees fit to appoint them.

The enlargement of the Committee has increased the interest on the subject of Colportage, and has also been the means of securing more laborers. One of the five just mentioned will soon, if he has not already, give up his commission, in order to engage in some other employment necessary for the support of his family—his salary as Colporteur not being sufficient.

The contributions to the Board have not amounted to but little more than $900; not enough to support our own Colportage, were all this money expended in the payment of their salary. More liberality is called for. The Board in Philadelphia feel a deep interest in this field. They are anxious

for some means to be adopted and made effective for the enlargement of our contributions to the Board, and for the increase of the number of pious and active men to enlist in the Colportage enterprise. They are willing and anxious to employ men whom we can recommend. If these ends cannot be accomplished without an Agent, your Committee have every assurance to believe that a Minister with good preaching talents and an enterprising spirit, can obtain a liberal salary should he undertake such an agency, and superintend the Colportage scheme, and search out men for the work, and collect funds.

Brethren, the field is large, and in a great measure yet unoccupied. Only a few counties, comparatively, have been supplied with the books of the Board. Thirty Colporteurs could be constantly employed in the State for fifteen years. Hence we would, in conclusion, suggest to each Minister the propriety of making an effort to secure one efficient Colporteur. In this way our State will soon be filled with heralds and forerunners of the ministry.

C. K. CALDWELL, *Chairman.*

The subjoined resolution was immediately offerred and unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That all the Pastors, Stated Supplies, and Church Sessions within the bounds of this Synod, be hereby reminded, that the time of making contributions to the Board of Publication in behalf of Colportage, is near at hand, and it is hereby recommended, that they present this subject fully to their respective charges, and secure as liberal contributions as possible from every church member to this object.

The Rev. A. G. Hughes was elected a member of the Committee on Colportage, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Rev. John A. Gretter ; and the Rev. Cyrus K. Caldwell was appointed Chairman of said Committee.

It was, on motion,

Resolved, That an abstract of the Minutes of the present sessions of the Synod be published in some one of our religious newspapers, and that the Stated Clerk be ordered to have 1,000 copies of the Minutes of this Synod printed in pamphlet form, and forwarded to the Sessions of our Churches.

The following resolutions of thanks were unanimously adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Synod are due, and are hereby tendered to the Citizens of Wilmington, for their generous hospitality to its members during the present sessions, and to the Officers of the Methodist

and Baptist Churches of the city, for the offer of their respective houses of worship for religious services on the Sabbath.

2. *Resolved*, That the grateful acknowledgements of this Synod are due to the President and Directors of the Wilmington & Raleigh—to the Wilmington & Manchester—to the Columbia & Charlotte—to the Raleigh & Gaston, and to the Petersburg & Roanoke Railroad Companies, respectively—and to the Proprietors of the Steamboat Company on the Cape Fear river—for their liberality in aiding the members of Synod to and from Wilmington.

3. *Resolved*, That the foregoing resolutions be published in the papers of Wilmington.

The minutes of the day's proceedings were read and approved, and the Synod having completed their business, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That this Synod do now adjourn, to meet in the town of Concord, Cabarrus county, North-Carolina, on Wednesday, the 25th day of October, 1854.

Accordingly, the moderator pronounced the Synod adjourned, according to the prescribed form, with singing, prayer, and the apostolical benediction.

DRURY LACY, *Stated Clerk.*

WILMINGTON, 13*th Nov.*, 1853.

MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-FIRST SESSION

OF THE

Synod of North Carolina,

HELD IN THE

CHURCH OF CONCORD,

OCTOBER, 1854.

RALEIGH:
PRINTED BY HOLDEN & WILSON, "STANDARD" OFFICE.

1854.

FLOWERS COLLECTION

FORTY-FIRST SESSION

OF THE

SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The Synod of North Carolina met, according to adjournment, in the town of Concord, Cabarrus County, on Wednesday, the 25th day of October, at 7 o'clock, P. M., and in the absence of the Moderator, was opened with a sermon by the Rev. William N. Mebane, the preceding Moderator, from 1st Peter, v. 8 and 9: "*Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the Devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour; whom resist, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren, that are in the world.*"

After the sermon, the Moderator took the Chair, and constituted the sessions with prayer.

PRESENT:

Of the Presbytery of Orange:—The Rev. Messrs. Jesse Rankin, Drury Lacy, William N. Mebane, Cyrus K. Caldwell, and S. A. Stanfield—*Ministers*, with Messrs. Wm. S. Rankin, Calvin H. Wiley, and Hugh McCane, *Ruling Elders.*

Of the Presbytery of Concord:—The Rev. Messrs. Walter S. Pharr, Robert Hall Morrison, D. D., Stephen Frontis, Samuel Williamson, D. D., Daniel A. Penick, Cyrus Johnston, D. D., A. L. Watts, James D. Hall, Jas. E. Morrison, E. F. Rockwell, Samuel B. O. Wilson, H. B. Cunningham, D. D., John E. McPherson, Walter W. Pharr, Archibald W. Baker, R. H. Lafferty, Samuel C. Pharr, D. D., William C. Sutton, P. H. Dalton, R. N. Davis, P. Tinsley Penick, Thomas N. Paxton, William C. Sherrill, Munroe T. Allen, and William S. Moore—*Ministers*, with Messrs. D. L. Torrence, J. H. White, T. A. Burke, W. F. Cowan, S. R. Bell, J. F. McCorkle, C. T. Alexander, J. F. Phifer, T. H. Hamilton, Daniel Coleman, B. Meuse, John K. Graham, R. J. McDowell, A. C. McRee, Thomas B. Price, J. B. Knox, and D. A. Davis—*Ruling Elders.*

Of the Presbytery of Fayetteville:—The Rev. Messrs. Adam Gilchrist, Archibald Smith, John R. McIntosh, Neill McKay, Neill McDonald, Wm. H. Hogshead, James Jones Smyth, Matthew B. Grier, George M. Gibbs,

Daniel T. Towles, and Duncan D. McBride—*Ministers*, with Messrs. Geo. McNeill and Robert W. Gibbs, *Ruling Elders.*

ABSENT.

Of the Presbytery of Orange:—The Rev. Messrs. William Paisley, Jno. H. Pickard, Elisha Mitchell, D. D., Eli W. Caruthers, D. D., Thomas Lynch, Alexander Wilson, D. D., George W. Ferrill, Robert Burwell, Thomas R. Owen, James Phillips, D. D., Edward Hines, Jacob Doll, A. G. Hughes, Edmund C. Bittinger, Archibald Currie, John S. Grasty, N. Z. Graves, James H. McNeill, F. N. Whaley, and T. U. Faucett.

Of the Presbytery of Concord:—Rev. Messrs. Daniel Lindley, T. P. Johnston, Wm. N. Morrison, Thomas E. Davis, and Benjamin L. Beale.

Of the Presbytery of Fayetteville:—Rev. Messrs. Robert Tate, Simeon Colton, D. D., Samuel Paisley, William N. Peacock, Hector McLean, Hector McNeill, Frederick K. Nash, Hugh A. Munroe, Colin Shaw, Duncan Black, Daniel Johnson, Hector McAlister, George McNeill, James M. Sprunt, and James P. McPherson.

Synod then proceeded to the election of a Moderator, when the Rev, A. L. Watts was duly elected.

The Rev. R. H. Lafferty and Mr. Calvin H. Wiley were chosen temporary Clerks.

The Rev. Washington Baird, of the Synod of South Carolina being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The Rev. P. F. Kistler of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Mr. Drecher, of the Lutheran Church, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Rules of Order were read to the Moderator elect, after which he took the Chair as presiding officer of the present sessions.

Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock —closed with prayer.

Thursday Morning, 9 o'clock.

Synod met according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer. The reading of the minutes of the last stated sessions of Synod was dispensed with. After the minutes of yesterday were read and corrected, the absentees from the sessions of Synod last year, were called on to render their excuses,—when the Rev. Messrs. Wm. N. Mebane and S. A. Stanfield, of the Presbytery of Orange, and the Rev. Messrs. Robert Hall Morrison, D. D.,

Stephen Frontis, J. D. Hall, J. E. Morrison, S. B. O. Wilson, S. C. Pharr, D. D., R. N. Davis, William C. Sheetz and Munroe T. Allen, of the Presbytery of Concord, and the Rev. Messrs. William H. Hogshead and James Jones Smyth, of the Presbytery of Fayetteville; rendered their excuses, respectively, which were regarded as satisfactory.

Letters of excuse for absence from the present sessions of Synod were received and read from the Rev. Messrs. James Phillips, D. D., James H. McNeill, and T. U. Faucett, of the Presbytery of Orange, and the Rev. Simeon Colton, D. D., of the Presbytery of Fayetteville.

The Rev. Messrs. Walter S. Pharr and Munroe T. Allen, and Messrs. R. J. McDowell and A. C. McRee, of Concord Presbytery, and Rev. Adam Gilchrist and Mr. George McNeill, of Fayetteville Presbytery, appeared in Synod, and rendered satisfactory reasons for their late attendance.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a minute on the obligation of Ministers and Elders to attend upon the meetings of Synod, and also the character of excuses which may be considered as valid.

Whereupon, the Moderator appointed the Rev. Messrs. Daniel A. Penick, Wm. N. Mebane, Robert Hall Morrison, D. D., *Ministers;* with Messrs. George McNeill, and Daniel Coleman, *Ruling Elders*, as said Committee.

The Statistical Reports of the several Presbyteries were called for, read, accepted, and ordered to be recorded. They are as follows, viz :—

I.—*The Presbytery of Orange report to the Synod of North-Carolina*:

That they consist of twenty-seven Ministers, and have under their care 47 Churches, 4 Licentiates and 6 Candidates; that on the 17th day of June, 1854, they dismissed the Rev. James N. Lewis, to join the Presbytery of Montgomery; that on the same day they dismissed the Rev. James Stratton, to join the Charleston Presbytery; that on the same day they dismissed Mr. Daniel Towles, a Licentiate, to place himself under the care of Fayetteville Presbytery; that on the 19th day of June, they received the Rev. T. G. Wall from the Presbytery of Winchester, and that on the 1st day of July, 1854, they ordained Mr. William P. Wharton, and installed him as Pastor of the Church at Milton.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. DOLL, *Stated Clerk.*

Madison, N. C., *October 17th*, 1854.

II.—*The Presbytery of Concord report to the Synod of North-Carolina*:

That they consist of 30 Ministers, and have under their care 62 Churches, 3 Licentiates and 10 Candidates; that on the 8th day of October, 1853, they installed Rev. S. B. O. Wilson, Pastor of the Church of Third Creek; that on the 30th day of Nov., 1853, they dismissed Rev. G. M. Gibbs to connect himself with the Presbytery of Fayetteville; that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation existing between the Rev. P. T. Penick and the Churches of Philadelphia and Bethlehem, and declared said Churches vacant; that in the month of Jan., 1854, they organized the Church of Franklin, in Macon county; that on the 31st day of March, 1854, they installed Rev. P. T. Penick Pastor of the Church of Concord Town; that on the 20th day of April, 1854, they dismissed Rev. Gilbert Morgan to connect himself with the Presbytery of Harmony, South Carolina; that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation existing between the Rev. H. N, Pharr and the Church of Concord, and declared said Church vacant; that on the same day they dismissed Rev. H. N. Pharr to connect himself with the Presbytery of South Alabama; that on the 21st day of April, 1854, they dissolved the pastoral relation existing between the Rev. A. L. Watts and the Churches of Steele Creek and Pleasant Hill, and declared said Churches vacant; that on the 14th day of June, 1854, they dismissed Mr. T. W. Erwin, a Licentiate under their care, to place himself under the care of the Presbytery of Brazos; and that on the 1st day of Sept., 1854, they struck from their roll the name of the Church of Burnsville, this Church having become extinct.

By order of Presbytery.

R. H. LAFFERTY, *Stated Clerk.*

September 2nd, 1854.

III.—*The Presbytery of Fayetteville report to the Synod of North-Carolina*:

That at this time they consist of 25 Ministers, and have under their care 53 Churches, 3 Licentiates and 4 Candidates; that on the 7th day of April, 1854, they received from the Presbytery of Concord, the Rev. George M. Gibbs, and dissolved the Church of "McPhersons," and dismissed the Rev. James O. Steadman to the Presbytery of Memphis, and the Rev. George McNeill, to the Presbytery of Orange; that on the 31st of August they received the newly organized Church of Lumberton under their care; that on the 1st of September, they received Mr. Daniel T. Towlesas a Licentiate from the Presbytery of Orange; that on the 2nd of September, 1854, they ordained Mr. Daniel T. Towles and Mr. Duncan D. McBryde to the whole work of the Gospel Ministry.

ARCHIBALD SMITH, *Stated Clerk.*

September 2nd, 1854.

The Narratives on the State of Religion from the Presbyteries of Concord and Fayetteville were presented, accepted, and re-

ferred to a committee to report thereon. On inquiry, it was found that the Presbytery of Orange had prepared and presented no Narrative to Synod.

The Moderator announced the following standing Committees appointed by himself, viz :---

1. *On Bills and Overtures.*—Rev. Messrs. J. Jones Smyth, R. N. Davis, P. H. Dalton, with Messrs. W. S. Rankin and R. J. McDowell.

2. *On the Judicial Committee.*—Rev. Messrs. T. N. Paxton, A. Smith, and Stephen Frontis, with Messrs. Hugh McCane and C. H. Wiley.

3. *On the Minutes of the Presbytery of Orange.*—Rev. Messrs. John R. McIntosh and J. D. Hall.

4. *On the Minutes of the Presbytery of Concord.*—Rev. Messrs. Neill McKay and William N. Mebane.

5. *On the Minutes of the Presbytery of Fayetteville.*—Rev. Messrs. S. A. Stanfield and S. B. O. Wilson.

6. *On the Minutes of the General Assembly.*—Rev. Messrs. Cyrus Johnston, D. D., William H. Hogshead, with Mr. T. A. Burke.

7. *On Devotional Exercises of Synod.*—Rev. Messrs. P. T. Penick and Robert Hall Morrison, D. D., with Mr. Daniel Coleman.

8. *On the Narrative of the state of Religion.*—Rev. Messrs. A. Gilchrist, C. K. Caldwell and William C. Sheetz.

9. *On the Treasurer's account.*—Rev. J. E. Morrison with Mr. George McNeill.

10. *On the Annual Report of the Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary.*—Rev. Messrs. H. B. Cunningham, D. D., A. Baker, and S. C. Pharr, D. D., with Mr. A. C. McRee.

11. *On the Report of the Trustees of Synod.*—Rev. W. W. Pharr, with Messrs. C. T. Alexander and W. F. Cowan.

The Treasurer's Report was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on that subject.

The time and place of the next meeting of Synod was taken up, when the Church of Greensboro', in the Presbytery of Orange was unanimously chosen as the place, and Wednesday, the 31st of October, 1855, at 7 o'clock, P. M. was fixed upon as the time for the next stated Sessions of Synod.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Presbytery of Orange has neglected an important duty, in not preparing and forwarding to Synod a Narrative on the state of Religion within its bounds.

The Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Union

Theological Seminary was presented, read, and referred to the Standing Committee on that subject, and is as follows, viz :—

The Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary would submit the following

REPORT

To the Synod of North Carolina, of the state of the Seminary during the year ending the 8th of May, 1854.

The Board have changed the time of their meetings from the 2d Monday of June to the 2d Monday of May.

Twenty-three Students have been connected with the Seminary during the year. Of these the following have matriculated since the last report, to wit:—

Samuel Hamner Davis, Frederick County, Maryland,
John M. Goul, Rockbridge County, Virginia,
Joseph Morton Scott, Hardy " "
Willis L. Miller, Wake " North Carolina,
John W. R. Pugh, Romney, Virginia,
Wm. H. Harrison, Rockbridge County, Virginia,
Wm. Caruthers, Prince Edward " "
Robert C. Walker, Rockbridge " "
John H. Davis, Hampshire " "
Walter W. Pharr, Cabarrus County, North Carolina,
James H. McClelland, " " "
Thomas Spencer Ogden, Brownsburg, Virginia.

The health of the Students has been good; their diligence in study commendable, and their conduct consistent with their profession.

With inexpressible sorrow, we report the decease of the Rev. F. S. Sampson, D. D., Professor of Oriental Literature, which occurred on the 9th day of April, 1854.

The Rev. R. L. Dabney, D. D., was elected by the Board on the 23d of March, 1853, as Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Polity. He entered upon the duties of his office the 29th of August, 1853, and was inaugurated the 8th day of May, 1854.

The Officers of the Board are:

The Rev. DRURY LACY, D. D., President,
" Wm. H. Foote, D. D., First Vice President,
" Archibald Baker, Second Vice President,
Mr. Clement C. Read, Secretary,
" Francis N. Watkins, Treasurer.

The Professors of the Seminary are:

1. Oriental Literature,
2. Theology, Rev. S. B. Wilson, D. D.
3. Ecclesiastical History and Polity, Rev. R. L. Dabney, D. D.

Funds of the Seminary.

The vested Funds of the Seminary amount to - -	$63,200
Consisting of—	
Virginia State Stocks, - - - - - - - -	36,500
City of Richmond, - - - - - - - - -	10,000
Virginia Bank, - - - - - - - - - -	7,500
Farmers Bank, - - - - - - - - - -	7,600
Bank of Valley, - - - - - - - - -	500
Roanoke Valley, - - - - - - - - -	100
In outstanding Debts, - - - - - - - -	1,500

There are two Scholarships of two thousand five hundred dollars each, established in connection with the Seminary.

Arrangements have been made to afford ample instruction in the department which was vacated by the death of Professor Sampson, and a plan of operations established. by which to endow a fourth Professorship.

An addition of 175 volumes has been made to the Library by donations, and there are now 4,184 bound volumes in the Library.

Three of the Students have finished the course of study, but only one of them was present at the close of the year to receive a diploma; the others having gone to their respective Presbyteries, to obtain licensure. All of which is respectfully submitted.

By order of the Board,

CLEMENT C. READ, *Secretary.*

The Rev. A. W. Watson of the Synod of Arkansas, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The Stated Clerk informed the Synod that the term of service of the fourth class of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Robert Burwell and Wm. N. Mebane, with Mr. N. M. Lewis, now expired; whereupon the Rev. Messrs. S. A. Stanfield, S. C. Pharr, D. D., with Mr. Jesse H. Lindsay, were unanimously elected to serve for the next four years, as Directors in said Seminary.

Messrs. Thomas B. Price, and J. B. Knox, Ruling Elders from the Presbytery of Concord, appeared in Synod and took their seats.

The Rev. Messrs. Wm. N. Mebane and Daniel A. Penick,

were appointed a Committee to make nominations for the College of Electors in the Union Theological Seminary, to serve for the next four years.

Synod then took a recess, to meet again at 2 o'clock.

After recess, Synod met, and resumed its business. The Rev. Samuel Williamson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Concord, appeared in Synod, and rendered satisfactory reasons for his late attendance.

A letter was received and read from the Rev. Geo. McNeill, assigning reasons for absence from the present session of Synod.

Messrs. W. F. Cowan, J. F. Phifer, and S. R. Bell, *Ruling Elders*, of the Presbytery of Concord, appeared in Synod, and took their seats as members.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made their Report, which was accepted and adopted; and is as follows, viz :—

1. *Resolved*, That three o'clock to-morrow afternoon be the order of the day to attend to the Devotional Exercises of Synod, and that the following be their order:—Singing and prayer by Rev. Stephen Frontis; Reading the Scriptures by Rev. M. B. Grier; Address by the Rev. Adam Gilchrist; Prayer by Rev. Drury Lacy; Singing and Benediction by the Moderator.

2. *Resolved*, That the Reports of the Agents of the four Boards of our Church, and the discussions on those subjects, be opened with Singing and Prayer, by the respective Agents of those Boards, and closed with Singing and Prayer, by the Moderator.

3. *Resolved*, That this evening, at 7 o'clock, be the order of the day to attend to the Board of Education; that 11 o'clock, Friday morning, be the order of the day to attend to the Board of Publication; that Friday evening, at 7 o'clock, be the order of the day to attend to the Board of Foreign Missions; and that Saturday morning, at 11 o'clock, be the order of the day to attend to the Board of Domestic Missions.

P. T. PENICK,
R. H. MORRISON,
DANIEL COLEMAN.

The Committee appointed to examine the Minutes of the Presbytery of Concord, made the following Report, viz :—

That they find said Minutes neatly and accurately kept, and recommend that they be approved to page 449.

The Committee on the Minutes of the Presbytery of Fayetteville reported :—

That they have examined said Minutes, and recommend their approval to page 26th, vol. VII.

These reports were severally adopted.

The Rev. Jesse Rankin, of the Presbytery of Orange, the Rev. J. E. McPherson, of the Presbytery of Concord, and the Rev. M. B. Grier, of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, appeared in Synod, and gave satisfactory reasons for their late attendance.

Messrs. J. F. McCorkle of the Presbytery of Concord, and Robert W. Gibbs, of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, appeared in Synod, and took their seats as members.

The following resolutions were presented and adopted, in reference to the sudden death of Mr. Richard Lowry:

Resolved, That this Synod have heard, with very deep sorrow, of the death of Maj. Richard Lowry, Ruling Elder of the Church of Franklin, Rowan County, who yesterday morning left his home, in health, in order to attend the meeting of this Synod, and died last night, on his way hither, about eight miles from this place, in consequence of an injury received from his horse, that took fright at the train of cars, that were passing at the time, on the North Carolina Railroad.

Resolved, That, in the death of this esteemed brother, we mourn the loss of one whose life illustrated his faith, and whose warm attachment to the doctrines and order of the Presbyterian Church was maintained to the last; whose influence, silent, but effective, from his youth, was felt in his own Church, in his neighborhood, and the general circle of his Christian acquaintance; whose open house and warm heart were ever ready to welcome his brethren to the greetings of a kind sympathy, and the bestowment of a generous hospitality; whose purse was never closed, when application was made in behalf of the benevolent schemes of the Church; and whose attendance on ecclesiastical meetings was a worthy example to his brethren of the Eldership,

Resolved, That this Synod express their sympathy with his heart-stricken widow and bereaved family; and that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded, by the Stated Clerk, to the papers of Concord and Salisbury, for publication.

The Committee appointed to nominate Electors for the Union Theological Seminary, presented the following list; and the gentlemen named below, were unanimously chosen, as the Electoral College, to serve said Institution for the next four years, viz :—

Ministers.—Rev. Messrs. Neill McKay, Colin Shaw, A. G. Hughes, Wm. H. Hogshead, P. H. Dalton, W. P. Wharton.

Ruling Elders.—Messrs. Daniel Coleman, Wm. B. Carter, C. H. Wiley, Robert W. Gibbs, Henry Elliott, Wm. S. Rankin.

The Stated Clerk presented the Statistical Report of Synod, prepared for the next General Assembly, which he read, and is as follows, viz :—

REPORT

Of the Synod of North Carolina to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States :—

The Synod of North Carolina report to the General Assembly, That they consist, in whole, of eighty-two Ministers, having under their care one hundred and sixty-two Congregations, ten Licentiates and twenty Candidates, viz :—

Presbyteries.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Licentiates.	Candidates.
1. Orange,	27	47	4	6
2. Concord,	30	62	3	10
3. Fayetteville,	25	53	3	4
Totals,	82	162	10	20

The Synod further report, that, within the past year, its Presbyteries have ordained three Licentiates to the full work of the Gospel Ministry ; installed one of them as Pastor, while two were ordained *sine titulo ;* and that they have installed three Ministers as Pastors of Churches ; that they have received one Minister from another Synod, and have transferred one Minister, and one Licentiate from one Presbytery to another, within the bounds of the Synod : that two new Churches have been organized, and received under the care of our Presbyteries ; that they have dissolved the pastoral relation subsisting between three of our Ministers, and their respective charges ; that they have dismissed five of our Ministers and one Licentiate, to connect themselves with other Synodical bodies ; and that the next meeting of Synod will be held at Greensboro', on Wednesday, the 31st of October, 1855, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

DRURY LACY, *Stated Clerk.*

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the foregoing Report be accepted and adopted, and that an authentic copy of it be transmitted to the next General Assembly.

An hour was now spent in devotional exercises by Synod, after which it took a recess until 7 o'clock, this evening.

After recess, Synod convened, and on being called to order, the report of the Synodical Agent on Edueation was presented, read, and accepted ; and after several interesting addresses, it was laid on the table, to be taken up to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The Rev. Messrs. George M. Gibbs, and Neill McDonald, of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, appeared in Synod, and rendered satisfactory reasons for their tardiness.

Mr. D. A. Davis also, a ruling Elder of the Presbytery of Concord, appeared in Synod, and took his seat as a member.

Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Synod met according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of yesterday were read and corrected.— Synod then proceeded to the unfinished business of the previous evening, to wit : the Report of the Synodical Agent on Education, and the appended Resolutions.

The first resolution was adopted, and the further consideration of the remaining resolutions, together with the report itself, after a protracted discussion, was again made the order of the day for 2 o'clock, P. M.

The report on Colportage was presented by the Chairman of the committee on that subject, was read, accepted, and, after an interesting discussion, was finally adopted. The resolutions appended to this report were referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Robert Hall Morrison, D. D., A. Gilchrist, Wm. N. Mebane, with Messrs. R. J. McDowell and Geo. McNeill.

Synod then took a recess till 2 o'clock, P. M.

After recess, Synod met and proceeded to the order of the day, to wit, the resolutions of the Committee on Education. The second resolution was adopted.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That inasmuch as Synod spent an hour on yesterday in devotional services, the present order of the day for these exercises be dispensed with.

The discussion on the resolutions of the Educational Committee was resumed and continued, when, after various amendments and substitutes, the final action of Synod resulted in the adoption of the report and the subjoined resolutions*.

Resolved, 1. That while Synod rejoice in the hopeful signs of increase in the number of candidates in some parts of our Zion, it greatly deplores the continued dearth of Candidates and Ministers in its bounds, notwithstanding the abounding destitutions of its congregations, the wide spreading spiritual wants in its borders, and the loud call for more laborers both at home and abroad.

Resolved, 2. That as a Synod, we will use all lawful and practicable means to raise up an efficient ministry in our midst; and that in the accomplishment of this purpose, we regard it as a matter of immense practical importance to provide for our youth a Collegiate education, which shall combine the greatest possible amount of moral and religious instruction, with the most thorough intellectual development and general scholarship of the highest attainable order.

Resolved, 3. That a Committee of one Minister and one Elder from each Presbytery be appointed to prepare for the action of the next Synod a Report and Resolutions on the subject of a Presbyterian College of the first grade—with a view of securing, at no distant day, in addition to the usual Baccalaureate course of study in American Colleges, as thorough and complete scholarship in general literature and science as can be obtained in any of the Universities of the world. Said committee being instructed hereby to collect public sentiment, and to consult with other brethren on the general plan and details of said College.

Resolved, 4. That Synod heartily concur with the General Assembly in recommending "the last Thursday of February next as a day of special prayer for the outpouring of God's spirit on the Churches, and of public instruction on Christian Education, especially with reference to the necessity of an enlargement of the ministerial resources of the Church."

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* See Appendix A.

Mr. B. Meuse obtained leave of absence from the remaining sessions of Synod.

The Committee appointed to examine the condition of the funds in the hands of the Trustees of Synod made a report, which, after some discussion, was indefinitely postponed.

Synod then took a recess until 7 o'clock this evening.

After recess, Synod met and resumed its business. The Moderator, in conformity with the third resolution adopted by Synod on Education, appointed the Rev. Drury Lacy and Mr. C. H. Wiley of the Presbytery of Orange, the Rev. Daniel A. Penick and Mr. Daniel Coleman of the Presbytery of Concord, and the Rev. Neill McKay and Mr. Henry Elliott of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, a committee to carry out the design of Synod as expressed therein.

The order of the day having arrived, Synod heard the report of the agent on Foreign Missions. After several interesting addresses, it was laid on the table to be taken up to-morrow.

The report of the Committee on the minutes of the General Assembly was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Synod met agreeably to appointment, and was opened with prayer. The Minutes of yesterday were read and corrected.—The Rev. E. F. Rockwell, of the Presbytery of Concord, appeared in Synod, and rendered satisfactory reasons for his late attendance.

The Rev. Messrs. W. W. Pharr, Stephen Frontis, and Messrs. D. L. Torrence, S. R. Bell and T. B. Price, Ruling Elders, obtained leave of absence from the remaining sessions of Synod.

Synod took up the order of the day, to wit, the Report of the

Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, which was accepted and adopted, &c., as follows, viz :—

REPORT.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly beg leave to submit to Synod the following items:

1. WHEREAS, this Synod has an agent appointed to spread before it the subject of each of the four Boards of the Church, viz:—Education, Publication, Home and Foreign Missions; your Committee would simply recommend the Presbyteries and Church sessions to put forth more untiring and efficient efforts for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom by these instrumentalities.

2. Your Committee would call the attention of Synod to the subject of *systematic benevolence*, found on pages 37 and 38 of the Assembly's Minutes. On this subject we recommend the following:

1. *Resolved*, That the appropriation of a portion of their substance by every congregation and individual christian, as God has prospered them, is an ordinance of God's house, which no Minister or Church can neglect with impunity.

2. *Resolved*, That the several Presbyteries of this Synod require every Minister and session to present the claims of each of our four Boards annually to their people, so that an opportunity may be given to aid each Board; and that Presbyteries at their Spring sessions institute a proper inquiry into the diligence of Ministers and sessions as to the duty enjoined, and report the result to the General Assembly.

3. *Ministerial Support*—(page 40.)

Your Committee recommend the following resolutions :—

1. *Resolved*, That we regard the action of the Assembly as salutary and important on this subject.

2. *Resolved*, That this Synod enjoin upon the Presbyteries and Churches, special attention to the 3rd and 4th Resolutions of the Assembly on this subject—in these words, viz :—

"3. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the elders, and deacons, and trustees of our churches and congregations, to meet together on some day before the 1st of November next, and yearly thereafter, or oftener if necessary, and institute the inquiry whether the minister or stated supply is properly and fully supported; and if they find that he is not so supported, to take immediate measures to increase his support, and report to their Presbytery at its next meeting."

"4. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the Presbyteries to require of every minister to preach on the subject of Ministerial Support—"that laying aside all false delicacy, they enlighten their people upon this, as upon any other branch of Christian duty, pleading not for themselves, but for their Master, if happily they may reclaim their respective charges from a grievous sin, which must bring down God's displeasure;" and that the Presbyteries call upon every minister to answer whether he has complied with their injunction."

4. *The Metropolitan Church*—(page 21.)

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Synod the enterprize is truly commendable, and that all our Churches be recommended to aid in its completion.

C. JOHNSTON, *Chairman*.

The Committee appointed to report on the obligations of Ministers and Elders to attend upon the meetings of Synod, presented their report, which was accepted, adopted, and is as follows, viz :—

The Committee to which was referred the subject of absences on the part of members from the stated meetings of Synod, and of excuses for the same, with directions to bring in a suitable minute for the adoption of this body, submit the following as their report:

It has become, to this Synod, a matter of deep humiliation and no inconsiderable solicitude, that absences from its stated meetings have become so numerous and often, as the Synod are constrained to believe, for very insufficient reasons, such as the inconvenience and labor of attendance occasioned frequently by various merely secular engagements.

The offices of both the Teaching and Ruling Elders are believed to be of divine authority, and of paramount importance to the perpetuity as well as the growth of the Church. If this be true, then whatever tends to disparage these sacred offices, or slightly to set aside the duties thereof, must be regarded as of a dangerous tendency, to be sedulously guarded against. Among these duties, beyond all doubt, is that of punctual attendance upon the meetings of the Synod.

Whilst we cherish unfeigned sympathy and charity for our brethren under the ever varying circumstances in which they are often placed, we are, nevertheless, constrained to say that we cannot understand how it is that brethren who feel themselves to be called of God to these offices, and to be solemnly set apart to the duties of them by divine authority, can suffer themselves to engage in any such secular business as will disqualify or incapacitate them for the duties of their office, or supercede their attention to those duties.

It must be conceded, at the same time, that there may be cases in which ministers of the gospel are justifiably engaged in teaching where that teaching is not strictly or directly religious. These cases, however, are believed to be comparatively few, to constitute an exception to the general rule upon this subject, and to furnish no good reasons for absence from the judicatures of the Church, unless in extraordinary cases. It is much to be lamented, however, that the exceptions are becoming so numerous as to make the sacred office a secondary one.

The Synod feels it to be her solemn duty, therefore, to call the special attention of all the members to the high and paramount claims of their office, and to their imperious obligations to make those claims secondary to no claims or interests whatever.

In view of these principles, claims, and obligations, this Synod cannot regard any excuses for absence from its meetings as valid, that are based upon mere convenience, personal comfort, or pecuniary advantage or disadvantage, growing out of purely secular or lucrative avocations.

Therefore, Resolved, That the Standing Rule of this body touching the disposition of excuses rendered for absences, be and the same is hereby reversed; and that hereafter no excuse for absence shall be regarded as satisfactory, unless it be sustained by a direct vote of the Synod upon its merit.

DANIEL A. PENICK, *Chairman.*

The Committee appointed to consider the resolutions appended to the report of the Committee on Colportage, presented their report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz :—

The resolutions appended to the Report of the Standing Committee on Colportage, having been referred to a special committee of the Synod, said Committee respectfully report as follows:—

We regard it as a cause of gratitude to God, that our Board of Publication has been successful in publishing so many excellent works explaining and defending the doctrines and enforcing the duties of our holy religion. But this great enterprise cannot be regarded as fully successful until more general and efficient means are used to circulate these books among our whole population.

It is matter of serious regret, that while thousands in our land are perishing for lack of knowledge, standard works upon the most important subjects, and approved by our whole Church, should not be more generally distributed, when offered upon the most reasonable terms. More liberal and zealous and prayerful efforts on the part of ministers and churches, to distribute these books, we doubt not, would be instrumental, by God's blessing, in increasing the intelligence, piety, and usefulness of Christians, and in turning sinners from darkness to light.

While approving all that the Synod has heretofore done in this great work, we believe that the welfare of our Churches and the best interests of the rising generation demand more liberal, united, and untiring exertions in this branch of christian benevolence. We regard it as the solemn duty of all our ministers to obey the injunction of the General Assembly, in laying this cause before the people; and those churches cannot be regarded as discharging their whole duty which continue neglecting to contribute to the funds of this important Board. We recommend to Synod the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That as an increased number of judicious and efficient Colportuers is much needed within our bounds; it be recommended to our ministers to use more diligence in looking out for and aiding men qualified to distribute our books.

2. That it be strongly recommended to all our churches to procure a complete set of the books of our Board, for their own use, as soon as possible.

R. H. MORRISON,
W. H. MEBANE,
A. GILCHRIST,
GEO. McNEILL,
R. J. McDOWELL.

The following resolutions were presented and adopted as an appendix to the foregoing, viz :—

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the pastors, sessions, and stated supplies of our Church, in addition to a supply for their own Churches, to engage, systematically, in all suitable efforts through their own organization, to supply the destitute around them with the publications of our Board.

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be enjoined to have an Agent in each, to procure all information regarding the working of the Board of Publication and of the Colportage system in their respective bounds, and report the same to the Chairman of the Synodical Committee on or before the 1st day of September each year.

The Committee on the Treasurer's accounts, presented a report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz :—

The Committee on the Treasurer's account, report that they have examined the receipts and disbursements, together with the vouchers placed in their hands, and find there is due the Treasurer one dollar and forty-one cents ($1 41.)

JAMES E. MORRISON, *Chairman.*

The Rev. E. F. Rockwell, with Messrs. R. J. McDowell, Hugh McCane, George McNeill, F. McCorkle, D. A. Davis, and J. B. Knox, *Ruling Elders*, obtained leave of absence from the sessions of Synod, that may remain after the session of this morning.

The order of the day for hearing the Synodical Report on Domestic Missions having arrived, said report was read by the Chairman of the Committee, and after several interesting addresses, was laid on the table for further consideration.

Rev. Messrs. Walter S. Pharr, Cyrus Johnston, D. D., Drury Lacy, and Samuel C. Pharr, D. D. obtained leave of absence from the remaining sessions of Synod.

Synod then took a recess, to meet in the Methodist Episcopal Church, until 2 o'clock, P. M.

After recess, the Synod met, and was called to order.

The Committee on the Report of the Directors of Union Theo-

logical Seminary, presented their Report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz :—

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of the Board of Directors of Union Theological Seminary, beg leave to Report, that they have examined said document, and find nothing in it which claims the special attention of this Synod, except the suggestion in relation to the expenses of the Directors and Electors of the said Seminary. On that subject, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz:—

1. *Resolved*, That each Presbytery composing this Synod, be enjoined to make provision for the payment of the expenses of the Directors and Electors, within its own bounds.

2. *Resolved*, (the Synod of Virginia concurring), That the plan of Union Theological Seminary be so changed that the Session shall hereafter commence on the fourth Monday of October and close on the fourth Monday of June, at which time the Board of Directors shall hold their Annual Meeting.

All which is submitted,

H. B. CUNNINGHAM,
A. BAKER,
S. C. PHARR,
A. C. McCRIE.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk of Synod forward to the Synod of Virginia a copy of the resolution proposing to change the time when the sessions of the Seminary shall commence and close.

The Committee on the Narrative of the state of Religion made a Report, which was accepted and adopted ; and is as follows, viz :—

NARRATIVE.

The Committee, to whom was entrusted the duty of preparing a Narrative of the state of Religion in the bounds of the Synod of North Carolina, respectfully report, that, owing to the failure of one of our Presbyteries to send up their report on this subject, the present Narrative must be defective. They gather the following facts: Both the Presbyteries report

That there seems to be a growing attachment, within our congregations, to the doctrines and polity of our branch of the Church of Christ, and an increasing disposition to make use of her organizations as the channel of collecting and dispensing the benefactions of the Church ; and there needs only more vigorous action to give an efficiency which shall reach, in its healthful operation, through its Ministry and Eldership, to the humblest members of our congregations, and even to the children of the Church.

From the report of the Fayetteville Presbytery, we learn, that, while it is not their happiness to record those special effusions of the Holy Spirit which strengthened the hands and gladdened the hearts of the friends of

Zion, there is, nevertheless, evidence, in the more entire devotion of Ministers to their work, and in the fidelity of their ministrations, accompanied with the numerous attendance and fixed attention of the congregations, which encourages hope that, ere long, there will be experienced a gracious visitation from on high.

That, since the last report, there has been much to encourage the belief, that the disposition is growing, to meet in a prompt and faithful manner, the engagements made with pastors for their temporal support, which is an indication, at once, of appreciation of the Gospel Ministry, as well as the popular esteem, in which those who labor in the Lord are held by their respective flocks.

While, however, we rejoice that the spirit of liberality, among the people, is in advance of former years, it is to be lamented that so many of the congregations have neglected to take up collections for the Boards of the Church—that so many of our congregations are vacant, and furnished only with occasional preaching—and that the enlarged blessing of God, which is usually bestowed in answer to prayer, and as the reward of suitable exertion, should be so generally withheld from us.

The Committee appointed to examine the Minutes of the Presbytery of Orange, presented their Report, which was accepted and adopted; and is as follows:—

The Committee on the Minutes of the Presbytery of Orange, report, That, on examination, they find them correctly kept, with the exception of not having the pages numbered; and recommend that they be approved, as far as they are written.

JOHN R. McINTOSH,
JAMES D. HALL.

The Judicial Committee, and the Committee on Bills and Overtures, respectively reported that no business had come into their hands, and asked to be discharged; which was accordingly done.

Synod proceeded to the unfinished business, viz:—the consideration of the Report* and Resolutions of the Synodical Agent on Foreign Missions. After various amendments, the Resolutions were adopted, as was also the Report.

1. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of every Church within our bounds to make sacrifices, by giving of their substance to the cause of Missions, as the Lord has prospered them.

2. That wherever this duty is neglected, there is but little hope of spiritual prosperity, for our past history shows, that where the grace of giving is not cultivated, the other graces languish with it.

* See Appendix.

On motion, it was

Resolvvd, That the Resolutions appended to the different Reports on the Boards of the Church, be printed with the Minutes of Synod, and that the Reports be printed in an Appendix to the Minutes.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That 5,000 copies of the Minutes of the present session of Synod be printed, and distributed among our Churches.

The Report of the Synodical Agent on Domestic Missions was again taken up, and, after further discussion, was accepted and adopted*. The following resolution was adopted, viz :—

Resolved, That the first step towards the progress of our Zion, must be the revival of humble and self-denying piety in the hearts of our Ministers, Elders and people.

Signed S. A. STANFIELD, *Agent.*

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be returned to the people of Concord for their kindness and hospitality to the members during its session—and also to the authorities of the Lutheran and Methodist Churches for the offer of their Churches to the use of the Synod—and that the Pastor of the Church in Concord make this resolution known to the parties interested.

The Minutes of the day's proceedings were read, corrected and approved, and Synod having completed their business, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That this Synod do now adjourn, to meet in the town of Greensboro', on Wednesday, the 31st day of October, 1855, at 7 oclock, P. M.

Closed with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

DRURY LACY, *Stated Clerk.*

* See Appendix.

APPENDIX

REPORT

Of the Committee on Education.

From information gathered, mainly from the Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries and Synod, from the annual Report of the Board of Education, and the Minutes of the General Assembly, your Committee respectfully submit the following concise statement, in reference to the cause of Education, for the past Synodical year, with a few suggestions and practical remarks on the subject of Education in our bounds.

The number of candidates reported by the Presbyteries composing this Synod, is 14, against 15 for the preceding year.

The amount of funds collected, as reported, is $3,189, of which $2,433 were reported from Concord, $459 from Orange, and $297 from Fayetteville Presbyteries. On examination, however, we find that $200 reported from Fayetteville, should be placed to the credit of Orange, thus making the amount contributed by the latter, $659, and that by the former, $97. To the amoun raised by Concord, 18 of her 62 Churches contributed, to that raised by Orange, 19 of her 47 Churches contributed, and to that raised by Fayetteville, 5 of her 53 Churches contributed. In all, only 42 of the 162 congregations of the Synod are reported as having contributed to this enterprise of our Church.

The above statement, however, should be subject to some modification on account of inaccuracies of sessional reports, and an entire failure of a number of the sessions to report at all. It should be stated too, in justice to Fayetteville Presbytery, that there are not less than five or six corporate institutions of high character in her bounds, as well as quite a number of classical academies of scarcely less value, sustained by individual enterprise, all strictly Presbyterian in principle, which have claimed and commanded large contributions from many of our Churches and individual members, for their permanent establishment, none of which seems to have been reported.

The other Presbyteries may have been similarly engaged in promoting the general cause of christian education.

Making all due allowance for such contingencies, it cannot be denied that 162 congregations with their 12,000 communicants have given very feeble evidence of their interest in this department of christian benevolence. It is time we should face the tremendous fact, that we are not now able to hold, with clear and undisputed right, the land that has been already possessed in our bounds, much less are we prepared to occupy new, interesting, and most promising fields at home and abroad. And we may be permitted to state here, without encroaching on the ground

assigned to the Committee on Domestic Missions, that 35 of our Churches are reported as vacant, only 40 of our 162 congregations have regular pastors. These are truthful though painful statistics; and we may safely say, are without a parallel in the reports of any of the Southern Atlantic States; the truth is, the destitutions of the Synod of North Carolina are almost equal to those of the Synod of Virginia and South Carolina combined. Of their 278 Churches, only 43 are reported vacant, 28 in the former and 15 in the latter. And while the number of new candidates in the Presbyterian Church for the last year is greater than that of any one year for the last seventeen; and while the aggregate amount contributed by the whole Church is increasing rather than diminishing, *we, a component part of the Church*, are actually falling off in our contributions, and the number of our candidates, formerly, lamentably small, is still growing less.

In view of these facts and statements, alike humiliating to us as men, as christians, nay as North Carolinians, may we not claim the indulgence of Synod, while we call their attention to some of the more prominent causes of the present state of things, and suggest some of the ways and means which, by God's blessing, may avert our impending doom, restore to us the joys of his salvation, and establish a new and better order of things in our midst.

It is high time that we, *as a Synod*, should awake to a just sense of our danger and to a proper appreciation of our condition. It is important, though painful, to know the full extent of our destitutions, in order that we may address ourselves like men and christians to the proper remedy.

1st. The first and most important fact which claims our consideration, is one of deep and growing apathy in the cause which we now represent.

Why are we faltering in respect to the *main, grand* instrumentality of divine appointment in the redemption of man, viz: the raising up an efficient ministry in our midst? Why our small contribution of men and money to the great work of evangelizing the world? Why should the Synod of North Carolina fall back in the rear among the allied tribes of God's Israel in their efforts to restore fallen, depraved man to his primitive state of purity and holiness, and subjugate a rebellious world to the King of Zion?

It is not because our capacity to educate and support the ministry is not *greater* than it has ever been at any period of our past history. For it is an undisputable fact, that the prosperity of our State is unparalelled, and her prospective growth in the development of her commercial facilities, agricultural wealth, and mineral resources, defy all computation. In the words of one of her most distinguished sons, distinguished too in "the ministry of reconciliation," who will pretend to set a bound to the progress of a State with "a coast like that of North Carolina, and with a country like ours, stretching away to the westward 450 miles; and coal, and iron, and copper, and gold, and silver, and marble, and sandstone, and limestone, and soapstone, and granite; over regions fit for tillage, and regions fit for pasture, rich in all vegetable productions most useful to man, rich in the cattle upon a thousand hills, with an opulence

and abundance marvelous even to those who know and love her, and incredible to those who know her not."

Nor can the paucity of candidates be accounted for on the ground that God has withheld the regenerating influences of his spirit from our congregations. So far as we have been able to ascertain, there never was a time when our Church numbered more youth among her communicants than at present; and there never was a time when more young men, professedly pious, were in a course of academic and collegiate education. This conviction is prevalent in other parts of our Church. Among many others, we add only the testimony of the Rev. Dr. Baird, in a speech before the Synod of New Jersey. "Within the last few months, I have had my attention called to several of the colleges in the Middle States, and I have been greatly struck with the fact, that the number of professors of religion among the students is much greater, in some of them, in proportion to the whole number, than it was when I was a student. I am inclined to think that the number of professors of religion in our academies and colleges, especially in the Middle, and Southern, and Western States, was never much greater, if at all, in proportion to the whole number, than at present. Some of the colleges and academies in the States of New York and Pennsylvania, have a remarkably large number of professedly pious young men. This is true of the University of Rochester, Madison University, Jefferson College, Hamilton and Princeton Colleges In some of the colleges and academies referred to one-fourth, in some one-half, and in others more than three-fourths, are members of Evangelical Churches. To this list might have been added Oglethorpe University, Ga., Centre College, Ky., and Hanover College, Ind. Many other facts might be adduced to show that the present dearth of candidates cannot be attributed to the scarcity of pious young men in the Church.

It is not because the Providence of God does not encourage us to duty, and beckon us onward to renewed efforts, and more abounding zeal, in the cause. "The opening field for the living Ministry," says the Report of the Board, "was *never so great* as at the present time. Our own country's harvest, white with twenty-five millions of immortal souls, is inviting reapers every where. The Foreign field stands in sight, like a problem that defies calculation. The Gentiles are ready to come to the brightness of Zion's rising. Asia, Africa, the Isles, the world at large, is inviting Evangelistic movements, on a scale hitherto unattempted; if not unthought of. The Earth is in commotion; China seems to be tenanted with a new race of men; the Sandwich Islands have taken their place among christianized nations; Mohamedanism is undergoing its last struggles, amid the agitations of a conflict, either of whose alternations is its own sudden doom. The Jews seem drawn towards Palestine, with an ardor which indicates the fulfilment of a Divine purpose." Popery, comparatively weak at home, is going abroad to exercise its wiles; persecution breathes forth its unchanged wrath against the truth as it is in Jesus; and Rome is preparing to die, if die it must, with throes and fulminations: Infidelity is coming forth from its lurking places. Whether in France, in Germany or in the United States, the appropriate expression of its rule is immorality and revolution. Precious truth, taught by annointed men, is the

hope of the nations. The Church, pre-eminently, needs a large company of her choicest sons to enter into the service of the Ministry, in the spirit and power of the old promise given to Abraham, and glorified at Pentecost: "In thee and thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed."

The question, then, returns with increased power and interest. Why our general and wide-spreading apathy, on the subject before us, in the midst of an unprecedented demand for the living Ministry? And the universal complaint of the paucity of candidates, among all evangelical Churches in our own, and other countries? The fact that the Ministry is so little appreciated and sought by our pious young men; its causes, consequences upon the Church, our country and the world, and the means of its removal, has arrested the attention of our own and all other Evangelical denominations, and has called forth most interesting and instructive discussions in our ecclesiastical assemblies, and religious journals.

A vast number and variety of causes have been assigned for the scarcity of candidates. Parents are said to be at fault, in not consecrating their sons to God, in the work of the Ministry, and training them to any duty to which the Holy Ghost may call them. Pastors have been blamed for not doing their duty in the premises. Our Churches have been greatly censured, and justly too, for the inadequate support given to those who labor for their good, temporal and eternal. The low state of religion, among all classes of professors of religion, has been assigned as one prominent cause of the present dearth of candidates. *And doubtless the whole Church* is ready to confess, that there has been a general short coming in reference to the solemn injunction of the Great Head of the Church: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." Beyond question, there has been a general failure of duty at this point, and all the causes alluded to have had more or less influence in producing the state of things so generally lamented.

Particular causes, however, have operated in different localities to prevent young men from entering the Ministey. There is one other cause, which we would notice more particularly, which has had its influence in our State, and which has not been noticed in any quarter, or by any one. It is the want of a proper appreciation of *home resources and home talent.* We would encourage no sectional prejudices; we would foster no selfish, narrow-minded and anti-christian spirit. On the contrary, we would welcome with joy, to our abounding destitutions, and receive with open hearts and arms, all the Messengers of grace and mercy, no matter whence they may come. The complaint is that they do not come; that *the home* demand *abroad*, like our own, is far greater than the supply. In North Carolina, we have been too much accustomed to look abroad, (beyond our own State), for almost everything valuable both in Church and State. Especially has this been the case in reference to our teachers, professors and preachers; and, with this feeling of *dependence* upon others, overlooking and undervaluing our own resources and talent, we have fallen insensibly into a most helpless and humiliating condition; the foreign supply has measurably failed, and the result is upon us, in all its fearful reality. *With men and means* at our own doors, we are in the

midst of a most fearful spiritual drought and dearth of candidates for the holy office. We have the resources, but they are not developed; we have the talent, but it is not encouraged and patronized.

Hence it is, that the subject of Ministerial Education has been so partially presented to our Churches, We have no mind that the Ministry should die out in North Carolina, but we are looking, and looking in vain, for help from those who are now almost as helpless and as destitute as ourselves.

Can it be matter of surprise that the Presbyterian Church in this State is not advancing in proportion to the increased prosperity of her population, when her *home* efforts have been comparatively so trifling? Are we astonished that the numbers of our prospective Pastors, Evangelists and Missionaries are not increasing, when nearly three-fourths of our congregations have not manifested the slightest interest in their preparation for their responsible and arduous work, in what practical men would call a "sensible way?" Is it presumable that men, intelligent christian men, would be active and zealous in looking out from among the pious youth of our Churches, those of good report and full of the Holy Ghost, and press home upon their hearts and consciences the high and holy claims of the Ministry,—and yet forget the Board of Education, *the first and great* object of which is to give all suitable aid, counsel and encouragement to pious and indigent young men preparing to preach the everlasting Gospel to a lost world?

It is true, in reference to the paltry sum which has been reported from this Synod, it may be said, that, although small in itself, yet the aggregate contributions of the Church have been more than sufficient to meet the wants of the Board: and we have been met with the objection, Why press the claims of the Board of Education, when, for years, there has been an overflowing treasury, and large balances are now on hand; and that, too, while other enterprises of philanthropy and christian benevolence, scarcely less important are calling, importunately, for pecuniary aid? Deceptive and flattering as this apology may be to delinquent Churches, and individuals generally, it can afford no comfort to the Presbyteries composing this Synod, especially to that Presbytery reporting the smallest contribution of the three. And we would simply submit to the consciences of delinquents, *Is* it not more than probable, that *a want of personal effort and zeal*, on our part, is one of the main causes of the paucity of candidates, and the consequent surplus of funds in the treasury? So that, although we may have given but little, yet our contributions have been more than proportionate to our personal diligence and activity; and, consequently, the fact of there being a surplus of funds on hand, so far from justifying, or even palliating, our delinquency, is a most conclusive evidence of aggravated guilt.

If we expect a supply of Ministers, at all commensurate with the necessities of our State—not to say of our country and the world—we must "rear them at home." The gifted and pious, the poor and humble, young men of our Churches, must be encouraged, from the very commencement of their Academic, through their Collegiate, and to the completion of their Theological, course of study.

Our sister States, Virginia on the one hand, and South Carolina on the other, have set us noble examples, worthy of our imitation. And when the Presbyterian Church in North Carolina, will have been brought by necessity, if not from *choice*, to rely upon her own resources and talents, she will find that there is no want of capacity on the part of her congregations, or genius among her sons.

As one of the means of providing for our *present and future* spiritual wants, in the raising up an efficient living Ministry, in our midst, we would, most respectfully, recommend to Synod, the speedy redemption of its pledges given, *impliedly, at least*, at its last sessions in Wilmington, for the more *full and liberal endowment* of Union Theological Seminary. After the clear and eloquent manner in which this subject has been presented, to our Churches, by the Appeal of "the Board of Directors," we would merely give our unqualified approbation to the truthful statements and forceable argument set forth, adding that some of the favorable indications of Providence, on which the appeal was based, are already beginning to be developed, in the prospective increase of candidates, and reports for the last two months, from Churches, Academies and Colleges, give encouraging evidence of a greatly augmented number of new candidates for the sacred office.

That the proposed endowment of a fourth Professorship is necessary—nay, *absolutely essential*—to the future success of the Seminary, none can doubt, unless they ignore the past history and experience of the Church on this subject, and close their eyes, and understandings too, to the present demand of the country and the age.

That the endowment is practical, is not questioned, if the Synod will only be prompt and united in its action. The present amount required is $40,000. The Synod of North Carolina would not assume less than one-half the amount, $20,000. Divided among our 162 Churches, the amount required of each would be less than $125. Omit our 35 vacant Churches, and divide the amount among the remaining 127, the sum required would be less than $160 to each congregation. Or, divide the whole amount between our Ministers and Licentiates, and the sum required from each would be a fraction over $200. No one will hesitate, one moment, as to our duty and ability in the premises. Let the endowment *be completed—let it be done now.*

As another means for the development of home resources and talent, and the consequent increase and prosperity of our Church, especially in the number, ability, and efficiency of her ministry, your Committee respectfully recommend to Synod the founding of a Presbyterian College in North Carolina, of the highest order, which shall stand forth to future generations, not only a monument of the liberality of our people and their high appreciation of home resources and talent, but as an exponent of Presbyterian doctrine, order, and literature of the State.

The abstract right of the Synod to found and sustain such a College, will not be questioned. For whatever diversity of opinion there may be in the Presbyterian Church in this country, in reference to denominational education in primary schools and academies, there is little or none in reference to the character of the enterprise we now advocate.

As to the management or government of the proposed College, we would not now make a suggestion. If the wisdom of Synod should so decide, let it be strictly denominational, established upon the present basis of educational policy, adopted and recommended by the General Assembly, and conducted by the same general principles of ecclesiastical supervision and control, with Centre College, Kentucky; La Fayette College, of Pennsylvania, and others of the same mould. Or, if Synod should so decide, let it be conducted by and under the management of Presbyterians, but not immediately subject to ecclesiastical supervision and control, as that of Princeton, Hampden Sydney, Jefferson, and others. But no matter what may be the peculiar complexion of the government of the institution, let it be *strictly* and *purely* Presbyterian. "Established upon the old foundations of thorough instruction and discipline." Let it have the best professors, the most substantial curriculum of studies, and the most excellent system of government.

That such a College is necessary, will be readily admitted by all who closely consider the intimate connection between collegiate and theological education. "Religion demands the homage of the most thorough intellectual development and general scholarship of the highest attainable order." And we know of no argument which has been or can be used for the endowment of the Theological Seminary, that might not be used with undiminished force, and to us, at least, with increased interest for the founding of a Presbyterian College in our own State And if we were called upon to present this subject to our people, the increase of the ministry, the reputation and success of our Church, the general good of society and of the State, would be the ground on which we would base our appeal to parental fidelity, christian liberality and philanthrophy. Unquestionable facts force upon us the conviction, that from our Colleges, and mainly from those under denominational influence, our Theological Seminaries must expect students, our Churches pastors, our home destitutions supplies, and the Pagan world missionaries. There is a general, popular confidence in the ability of Presbyterians to provide for and procure the most complete and thorough development of the intellectual and moral capacities of our youth, and our character as well as our necessities as a Synod, require that we should maintain that confidence and sustain the reputation which the fathers of Presbyterianism in North Carolina have transmitted to us as guardians of the best interests of rising generations.

Many of the Synods have been so thoroughly convinced of the intimate and almost indissoluble relation which the very genius of Presbyterianism has established between collegiate and theological education, and of the immense practical importance of the former to the efficiency and success of the latter; that they have already embarked in the laudable efforts to establish such Colleges in their midst, as their ability would justify and their wants demanded. The Synod of Kentucky, of Mississippi, of Georgia, and of Indiana, have taken the lead, and many of the Synods in the new and flourishing States of the Southwest have followed their example; and "more than three-fourths of the Synods have practically declared," under certain circumstances, in the wisdom and necessity of rearing Synodical Colleges.

And the history of these Colleges during their short existence has been most flattering to their friends and patrons, and is most encouraging to those who would embark in similar enterprises. Centre College, Kentucky, the first founded by any Synod in the United States, has given more than one-fourth of her Alumni to the work of the ministry. The same is true of Washington College, Tennessee; La Fayette has given considerably more than one-fourth, and Hanover College, Indiana, has given more than one-half of the whole number of her graduates to the sacred office. And the Colleges next in order, in our country, that have given the greatest number to the ministry, in proportion to the whole number of graduates, are those of the next nearest relation to our Church courts, and which are, in fact, denominational in character, but are not subject to ecclesiastical control, as Princeton, Hampden Sidney, &c. But to come nearer home, Davidson College, in our own State, with all her embarrassments, supported mainly by a single Presbytery, with only three or four professors, and of only about fourteen years of active existence, of her 170 graduates, has given about 35 or 40 to the ministry. The University of the State, of which we are justly proud, as one of the best, if not the best State College in the country, with all the patronage of the State and individual munificence it has received, with the council and influence of some of the ablest men of the State as its Trustees; with the combined influence and patronage of all religious denominations, with from 6 to 11 able and distinguished professors, with an existence of more than 65 years, and an Alumni numbering more than one thousand, has given to the pulpits of all denominations at home and abroad, about 80 ministers. It is a very liberal calculation, to suppose that one-fourth of these entered the ministry of the Presbyterian Church; this would give us, as a denomination, about 20 ministers, less than one minister every three years. And, yet we cannot complain. No denomination in the State contributed more liberally of men and money to found the University than the Presbyterian. No denomination has so full and able a representation in the Faculty, from its first organization, to the present time as the Presbyterians; and we may confidently add, that as the Presbyterians were the first to move the establishment of the University, as they have been its firmest friends and most constant supporters through every possible phase of adversity and prosperity, so they will be the very last to withdraw their countenance, influence, and support from her. Our men have been engaged in a noble work in the service of the State; they have contributed their full share in sending forth from her University some of the best scholars of which our country can boast; they have laid the foundation for the widest range of usefulness, and the highest degree of distinction which the nation can confer. And in proportion to the number of her Alumni, there is no College or University in the land that can boast of a greater number of distinguished politicians and statemen. The best has been done, and doubtless all that could have been done, for the State and her religious denominations, under the circumstances.

But are we, as a Synod, satisfied with such a provision for the edu-

cation of our future pastors, evangelists, and missionaries. The wonder is, that the Presbyterian Church in North Carolina has held her own as well as she has. Our neighbors have greatly the advantage of us in this respect; Virginia has 10 Colleges, two of them Presbyterian, besides the Theological Seminary. South Carolina and Georgia, upon the other side, are united in the support of their Theological Seminary and College, the former has the Seminary, the latter the College. But North Carolina, with characteristic prudence, modesty, or apathy, has given up all, and as we before remarked, we find the Presbyterian Church in a most *destitute, dependent, and helpless* condition; with little or no demand for her talent, and no adequate inducements for the development of her resources. Are we satisfied with this condition of things? Will we not open our eyes to our interest and our duty as christians, Presbyterians and North Carolinians?

Is such an institution necessary? If so, then there must be corresponding provision for its permanent endowment and practical operation. In reference to which we would make no suggestion in this report, but leave it for the Synod to adopt such ways and means as its wisdom and experience may dictate, only adding, that should the Synod be of one mind as to the present necessity and importance of the proposed enterprise, should it be enabled to see eye to eye in this matter, ultimate, nay speedy success is certain, in an age like the present, and in a country like ours. Whatever may be thought desirable, necessary and important by our people, can be accomplished, when perseverance, energy and capital are the main agents of success.

REPORT

Of the Synodical Committee on Colportage.

During the past year, this great enterprise in North Carolina, has met with no very material changes, either for the better or for the worse. It is true, there have not been as many Colportuers in the field as heretofore; yet those who have been laboring, have met with very encouraging success. Neither have there been as many books sold and families visited, as was reported a year ago; still, this was, in part, owing to the sickness of some of the men employed, and the shortness of time, spent in the work by others.

We are, at times, much gratified at the interest felt, and manifested by many, in relation to the benevolent operations of our Publication Board. Yet, we have again been pained at the apparent, if not real, apathy existing among a majority of our Churches. And it is believed by your Committee, that this apathy is a sin which is chiefly chargeable to the account of our Ministers. We have no evidence to convince us, that more than a respectable minority of them, ever go forward and prove their interest in this good cause, by efforts to secure suitable men for the service of the Board. And not only so, but we have reason to fear that a considerable number of our pastors and stated supplies, neglect to give the people of their charge, an opportunity of contributing.—Hence the blank annexed to the name of their Churches, under the publication column. Some of our congregations have been more liberal than usual, yet, in the aggregate, there has been but little advance on last year's collections. Only about $894 have been raised for this department of benevolence. Of this sum, $431 came from Orange, $418 from Concord, and $45 from Fayetteville Presbyteries. $177 of the whole amount, were private contributions of five individuals. There are, belonging to this Synod, 111 Churches, out of 162, which give nothing for the publication and diffusion of sanctified literature. Of this number, Orange has 28, Concord 35, and Fayetteville 48.

Only 51 of our Churches are credited for money raised for our Board of Publication. "Brethren, these things ought not so to be."

Since our last report, five persons have received commissions; all of whom, with one exception, are laboring within the bounds of Concord Presbytery. Two of these were students, who have the Ministry in view, and of course did not remain in the field more than two or three months each.

We are encouraged in the belief that more men can hereafter be led into the service of the Board, because the salary of Colportuers, who devote their whole time to the work, is considerably increased. Many who are qualified for the business, have been deterred from engaging in it, on account of the insufficiency of the wages offered; while others who were

on the point of retiring from the field, have been retained, for the reason already specified.

Brethren, the harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few. From past and present experience, we can say with confidence that, as a Synod and a body of Churches with a great work to do, we cannot do without the Colporteur. In the spread of the gospel at home, and in the building up of new Churches, we need his labors as a forerunner and a pioneer. He is a John the Baptist, to go before and prepare the way for the coming and success of the preachers of the gospel. But little do we know of the number of our waste places, unless we are aware of the fact that whole communities and counties, are not only destitute of a Church edifice and a Presbyterian Minister, but also know nothing of the existence of such a book as the confession of Faith, and of all other practical and doctrinal works, which we deem essential to a sound faith and a high tone of piety. Brethren, we should have a warmer zeal to have Missionary stations erected for Baxter, and Bunyan, and Doddrige, and Alexander, and others. Let us give them the liberty and privilege of still preaching to the guilty and perishing among us. Though dead, let them speak, and go out into the highway and hedges, and compel them to come in.

(Signed,) C. K. CALDWELL, *Cha'n.*

SYNODICAL REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your agent in making his report on the subject of Foreign Missions, craves the indulgence of his brethren, while he attempts the discharge of his duty; and so much the more, as the work assigned him is comparatively new. The path having been trod by no predecessor, he feels the more distrustful of his judgment as to what the Synod intended or the Church demands. It is evident, however, that progress in the work is desired, and to this end information in regard to the doing of the Churches is necessary, in order that the diligent may be encouraged, and the delinquent reproved. With this view of the subject, the following is submitted.

Finding it very perplexing, if not impossible, to get the proper statistics from our Presbytery during the Synodical year; your agent has adopted the financial year of the General Assembly, viz: April, 1853, to 1854. This arrangement commends itself, especially from the fact that the contributions of our Churches are generally made in the fall and spring.

The whole sum for the Board of Missions, contributed within our bounds during the last year, is found to be $2,018, from 162 Churches.

The Presbytery of Orange report 47 Churches, with a contribution of $688. It appears on the records, that this sum was given by 22 of the Churches, while 25 are represented as giving nothing.

The Presbytery of Fayetteville report 53 Churches, with a contribution of $335. Of the 53 Churches of this body, only 13 were contributors, leaving the remaining 39 that did nothing.

Concord Presbytery report 62 Churches, with a contribution of $955. Of the 62 Churches of this body, 24 contributed nothing.

In Orange Presbytery there are 25 Churches reported as idle; in Fayetteville 38, in Concord 24. Total 88.

From these statements it is evident that there is something wrong in the management of our system. Therefore every lover of the kingdom of Christ should be willing to hear and patiently examine into the causes of this barrenness in so large a portion of the vineyard, which we are called in providence to cultivate.

There is somethiug humiliating, if not alarming, in these developments. When more than half of our Churches can sit still in this age of progress, when God is opening the doors of kingdoms and empires, hitherto barred against the gospel, and is bidding us go work in his vineyard; and when we hear the Macedonian cry from almost all parts of the world, saying come over and help us; how can any christian church be idle? Nor is this all; it is found that many of the Churches that have made their contributions, have fallen far short of their duty. It is known that the accumulation of wealth in a few years past, has been without a parallel, but in this progress of means, we do not see a corresponding advance in benevolence. It is found, by reference to our

minutes, that in the last ten years the contributions have varied but little. The Churches have not yet learned to make sacrifices when they worship, as in the old dispensation, nor have they properly understood the nature of their stewardship; thus while they increase in their possessions, their temporal wants also increase. A thirst for large fortunes, a making haste to be rich, has been a stumbling block to some, while a love of fashion and pleasures has influenced others. This is a money loving age, an age of show, an age in which religion must compromise with sense, and make concessions to fashion; these evils we fear are bearing many away, as on the current of a mighty stream.

Christians blessed with prosperity and increase of goods, instead of giving as the Lord prospers them, satisfy their artificial wants first, which are "legions;" after that they have nothing to spare for the kingdom of Christ. Ministers may see this, but it is not easy to stem the current; to float with it, and try to regulate it, is more in accordance with carnal wisdom, and less hazardous of popular favor. It is our duty to consider these evils and apply the remedy.

Our form of government, we believe, is the best and most scriptural ever devised, and if its machinery is properly managed, the most successful, not only in perfecting the saints, but in extending our borders. But to be successful, its different parts must move in harmony.

No little of the evil now deprecated, in the opinion of your agent, is to be ascribed to the want of a proper exercise of our system in the cultivation of the grace of giving. Our past history has been marked with a strange yielding of our missionary work to agents who came from abroad and labored with commendable zeal, but not always according to knowledge. Their mode of preaching and transient stay, with few exceptions, had a tendency to excite prejudice, rather than love for the work.

Seeing these things are so, is it not high time that we look for the remedy in the wonderful resources of our Presbyteries, Synods and Assemblies? And if our judiciatories are beginning to exercise a proper authority in the oversight of christian missions, we should hail it as propitious. Every power from the Church session, up to the supreme judiciatory of our Church, should be equally vigilent in the accomplishment of that greatest work ever given to man, viz: the conversion of the world. The pastors and sessions are the main springs of action it is true, and many of them have done nobly. Still they need and must have the fostering care and encouragement of the higher judiciatories. They form the basis of our whole system of government; they labor and toil in the field; they enter the quarry, blast, break, and polish the rock for the building; while they look for protection and guidance from the higher courts. Our Presbyteries come next in order; they need and claim aid and direction, which they expect from the Synod.

Now if these bodies in their respective grades, concentrate their combined influence, sympathy and energy in any one direction, there must be progress in that way. And rest assured if we can once get our admirable system in motion, we shall need no more agents to visit us in behalf of our Boards. Nor shall we suffer from collapse after these spasmodic

and irregular efforts which have always characterized that system. It is a shame for the Presbyterian Church at this day, with her intelligence and her form of government, to wait for agents from abroad to stimulate her to duty.

The time has come when we must, as a Church, advance in the work of benevolence in *our own strength*, or we shall soon be in the retrograde. Let the impulse be given at this time and in this body, and let it be so understood, as to repair the injury of past neglect.

Your agent would therefore respectfully urge upon this Synod the duty of looking narrowly into the action and vigilence of the Presbyteries, and require them to exercise a little watchfulness over the pastors and sessions. And, if possible, make our sessions more prominent, and feel more responsibility; call upon them as well as the pastors, to render an account when not represented in our Presbyteries and Synods.

We have learned to watch our pulpits and give the alarm if a doubt is entertained as to the orthodoxy of any of our ministers, and this is as it should be; but why be indifferent as to soundness in practical duty? Theee is a faith without works, which is dead. The danger of destruction from this source, though less speedy, is not the less certain. Judging from the statistics of the last year, when 88 Churches report themselves as doing nothing for the cause of Foreign Missions; there are symptoms at least, of the disease of a dead faith in our Churches.

But could our pastors and sessions be so encouraged and strengthened, as to move in the work, these symptoms would soon pass away. Could they be induced to move onward as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, in obedience to their brethren in the Lord; healthy in the faith once delivered to the saints; producing the fruits of well cultivated gardens of the Lord, such as will regale the Saviour at his coming: the pulsation thus given at the heart of our system, will send a thrill of life to its extremities, every limb will give signs of life and growth, and every branch will bud, bloom, and produce rich clusters to the glory of God.

FOR REFERENCE
Do Not Take From This Room
BEMCO